

FOIA RELEASE

GEORGE RAFT

111 PAGES

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/24/85 BY 9045 life TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

FBI-LOS ANGELES

4-2-53

1-17PM

VP

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

GEORGE RAFT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. TODAY [REDACTED] CALLED AT
THIS OFFICE AND WAS INTERVIEWED BY ASAC CLEGG. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WAS ADVISED THAT THE FBI GIVES NO CLEARANCE ON ANYONE AND THAT THE
INFORMATION IN OUR FILES COULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HIM. HE STATED
THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A CONVERSATION WITH GEORGE RAFT, THE MOVIE ACTOR,
AT WHICH TIME RAFT STATED THAT WHILE RAFT WAS IN EUROPE LAST YEAR HE
WANTED TO USE [REDACTED] IN A MOTION PICTURE BUT THAT RAFT WAS
ADVISED BY J. EDGAR HOOVER IF [REDACTED] WERE USED THE PICTURE WOULD NOT BE
SHOWN IN AMERICA. [REDACTED] WAS ADVISED THAT THE POLICIES AND ETHICS
OF MR. HOOVER WERE SUFFICIENTLY WELL KNOWN THAT IT COULD BE UNEQUIV-
OCALLY STAT^{ED} THAT MR. HOOVER WOULD NOT HAVE MADE SUCH A STATEMENT TO
GEORGE RAFT. IN VIEW OF THE UNSAVORY BACKGROUND OF GEORGE RAFT
HE WILL NOT BE INTERVIEWED PERSONALLY CONCERNING THIS MATTER DABC.

MALONE

CORR LINE 10 WORD NONEXXNINE PICTURE

CORR LINE 14 WORD 2 -STATED

END AND ACK

RECORDED

421PM OK FBI WASH DC

APR 8 1953

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

0-9a

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. APRIL 3, 1953

AIRTEL

URGENT

Transmit the following message to SAC, LOS ANGELES

RECORDED - 26

62-99407-1

GEORGE RAFT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. REURTEL DATED
APRIL TWO, NINETEEN FIFTYTWO. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED
TO DESIGNATE TWO MOST EXPERIENCED AGENTS WHO ARE
FAMILIAR WITH RAFT'S BACKGROUND TO INTERVIEW RAFT.
HE SHOULD BE CONFRONTED WITH THE FACTS OF THE ALLEGATION
SET FORTH IN URTTEL. HE SHOULD BE CLEARLY ADVISED
OF THE BUREAU'S POSITION REGARDING CLEARANCES AND THE
FACT THAT INFORMATION IN OUR FILES IS CONFIDENTIAL.
RAFT SHOULD ALSO BE MADE TO CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT
IRRESPONSIBLE STATEMENTS OF THIS NATURE ATTRIBUTED TO
THE DIRECTOR AND THIS BUREAU WILL NOT BE TOLERATED OR
CONDONED. SHAIRTEL.

HOOVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/24/85 BY 9455/afw

COMM - FBI
APR 6 - 1953
MAILED 28

SENT VIA

M

Per

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: **GEORGE RAFT**
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: April 3, 1953

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

On April 2, 1953

[REDACTED] was interviewed by ASAC Clegg of the Los Angeles Office at [REDACTED] request. [REDACTED] he had just had a conversation with George Raft, a movie actor, and Raft had told him that while in Europe in 1952 Raft wished to use [REDACTED] in a motion picture. According to Raft, he did not do so, since Raft had been advised by J. Edgar Hoover that if [REDACTED] were used the picture would not be shown in America.

[REDACTED] The Bureau's position regarding so-called "clearances" and the confidential nature of Bureau files were pointed out to [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Los Angeles Office interview Raft and confront him with the facts of the allegation received and emphatically point out to him the Bureau's position in these matters in order that there will not be further repetition of this type of allegation by Raft. For your approval, there is attached an airtel to Los Angeles.

Attachment

RECORDED - 26

62-99407-2

6 APR 8 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 6-25-80 BY SP4 JRM-JM
 1-24-85 W45-cjw

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-342067-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following ~~TELETYPE~~ message to:

FBI LOS ANGELES

4-10-53

DIRECTOR

GEORGE RAFT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. REBUAIR-TEL APR THREE LAST.

RAFT WAS INTERVIEWED TODAY BY AGENTS OF THIS OFFICE AT HIS
APARTMENT, ONE FIVE ONE SOUTH RODEO DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

HE HAS BEEN AWAY FROM THE CITY FOR SEVERAL DAYS. HE WAS CON-
FRONTED WITH THE FACTS OF THE ALLEGATION SET FORTH IN MYTEL OF
APR TWO LAST. HE WAS CLEARLY ADVISED OF THE BUREAU'S POSITION
REGARDING CLEARANCES, AND THE FACT THAT INFORMATION IN BUREAU
FILES IS CONFIDENTIAL. HE WAS TOLD THAT IRRESPONSIBLE STATEMENTS
OF THE NATURE ALLEGED AND ATTRIBUTED TO THE DIRECTOR AND THIS
BUREAU WILL NOT BE TOLERATED OR CONDONED. RAFT DENIED HAVING MADE
ALLEGED STATEMENTS TO ANY PERSON OR PERSONS. HE SAID HE THOROUGHLY
UNDERSTOOD THE BUREAU'S POSITION AND POLICY RELATING TO SUCH
MATTERS, AND INDICATED AGREEMENT WITH THEM. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT

ASKING FOR EMPLOYMENT ON A PICTURE. RAFT CLAIMED HE TOLD

62-3224

RECORDED - 46
INDEXED - 46

APR 15 1953

79 APR 30 1953

EX - 108

Approved: Am
COPIES DESTROYED Special Agent in Charge
270 DEC 7 1964

Sent M Per

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/14/05 BY 9805/SLB

PAGE TWO

THAT HIRING PERSONNEL WAS NOT WITHIN HIS PROVINCE. RAFT DID NOT
PURSUE THIS POINT FURTHER, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT [REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] RAFT EXPRESSED PERSONAL
OPPOSITION TO COMMUNISM.

MALONE

cc:

[REDACTED]

b7c

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Harbo _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Gearty _____
 Mohr _____
 Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

GEORGE RAFT 3 GETS CAPONE OUT OF JAIL

Speaks Word For 'Old Pal'

Beverly Hills, Cal., Oct. 1 (INS)—George Raft, screen actor, was credited Thursday with getting his "old pal," John Capone, 49-year-old brother of the late underworld boss, Al Capone, out of the Beverly Hills jail.

Raft, who was with Capone when the latter was arrested at the Beverly Hills hotel Tuesday night, won Capone's release Wednesday. He told police:

"I'm an old friend of John's. He called me. We were just having a few drinks. Let him go and I'll guarantee he'll get out of town on the first plane."

Jailed with Capone, who said he came to southern California "to collect some dough I loaned a guy," was Joe Laino, 42, who identified himself as a Chicago street department inspector.

Laino was released with Capone. The pair reportedly left town in a hurry.



INDEXED-88 62-99407-A

101 OCT 3 1935

Times-Herald 3

Wash. Post _____

Wash. News _____

Wash. Star _____

N.Y. Herald Tribune _____

N.Y. Mirror _____

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DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145 ci/ea

F54
OCT 21 1955

Date: OCT 2 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: December 28, 1956

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT

George Raft

b7c

Dik

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

There is enclosed, per your request, a memorandum setting forth available data in Bureau files and public source material concerning movie actor George Raft. An attempt has been made in the memorandum to separate that information which is verified or easily verifiable from that which is based on rumor or is not subject to substantiation. All pertinent material appearing in public sources has been set forth in a separate section.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Per your request.

Enclosure

(6)

2
2H

ENCLO. BEHIND

SE 44

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145ai/pw
62-99407-3

JAN 15 1957

RECORDED - 24

INDEXED - 24

64 JAN 17 1957

GEORGE RAFT

Information in Bureau files as of December, 1956

62-99407-3

SYNOPSIS

George Raft (true name Ranft) was born in New York City, September 27, 1895, of Italian parentage. Record of his Selective Service Board in 1940, give the year of his birth as 1901. He was a dancer and speak-easy entertainer in New York, in his younger days and claims to have fought five professional boxing matches including preliminaries in Madison Square Garden. He married Grayce Mulrooney, daughter of former New York City Police Commissioner in June, 1923; separated shortly after marriage but has never been granted divorce by wife who objects on religious grounds. Early in his career, Raft came under the influence of New York bootlegger and racketeer, Owney Madden. He was reputedly brought up in the San Juan Hill Section of Manhattan, with notorious gangster, Bugsy Siegel, with whom he maintained a close friendship until Siegel's assassination in 1947. Raft first went to Hollywood in 1927, under the patronage of Owney Madden, and began obtaining parts in motion pictures which blossomed into starring roles in the early 30's. He was reputed to have been making \$300,000 yearly by 1945. Raft continued to associate with notorious gangsters and has used his influence on a number of occasions to intercede for his underworld friends. He is alleged to have been friendly with the following well-known gangsters: [REDACTED] John Capone, [REDACTED], Frank Costello, "Lucky" Luciano, [REDACTED] Joe Adonis, Jack Dragna, [REDACTED], "Longie" Zwillman and a host of ^{many} other hoodlums. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] He holds a one percent interest in the Flamingo, a casino-hotel built by Siegel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Numerous instances of his relationships with call-girls and with mistresses are related, and he was reputed to have a library of obscene films. Press accounts of Raft's activities portray him variously as a sinister influence in Hollywood and a "misunderstood," warm-hearted, loyal friend who likes kids, baseball and stewed tomatoes. Raft was featured prominently in the press in 1944, as a result of a dice game in the apartment of then Brooklyn baseball manager, Leo Durocher, in which one Martin Shurin claimed he lost \$18,500 to Raft. He hit the headlines again in 1945, when he beat up Ed Raiden, a Hollywood attorney, who was representing a nineteen year-old girl who had been one of Raft's mistresses. Because of his close association with Bugsy Siegel, he was mentioned frequently in press accounts of Siegel's murder in 1947. He also received considerable publicity by vouching for John Capone when the latter was arrested in Los Angeles, in 1953. Raft was interviewed by Bureau Agents in 1938, and in 1953, on both occasions he exhibited an outwardly co-operative attitude. He was investigated briefly by the Bureau in 1946 in connection with general criminal activities in the Los Angeles area. The investigation was based on possible White Slave violation arising out of Raiden matter and possibility of Raft's being "finger man" on a number of large jewel robberies. Investigation was dropped when no data of a nature to present for prosecution was uncovered. Files of the Identification Division do not show record of arrest for Raft. b7D

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4. Bugsy Siegel
5. [REDACTED] b7c
6. [REDACTED] b7c
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8. Gambling and The Syndicates
9. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7c
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11. [REDACTED] b7c
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- B. PERSONAL GAMBLING ACTIVITIES**
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- D. OBSCENE FILM PURCHASER**

SECTION I DATA IN BUREAU FILES RE RAFT

A. PERSONAL HISTORY

According to the records of Local Draft Board #246, Beverly Hills, California, in 1940, Raft was born in New York City September 26, 1901. He was married to Grayce Raft on June 15, 1923, and she lived in New York City.

[REDACTED] b7D b7C
(62-75147-26, Section 7, Serial 59)

The Pasadena "Star News" for September 27, 1955, carried an item which stated that George Raft was born in New York City on September 27, 1896.

The New York Office reported that on February 19, 1944, George Raft arrived in that city by air from French Morocco. He was traveling on U. S. passport number [REDACTED] and returning from a USO Camp Show Tour in Italy and North Africa. He had in his possession appropriate Selective Service papers which reflected he was registered with Local Board 246 under order #T-11304 and classified 4-F. (100-140-751) b7C

The records of the Identification Division contain three fingerprint cards submitted by the Sheriff's Office of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the Gambling Division of the Nevada Tax Commission regarding Raft's interest in the Flamingo Hotel. This establishment prominently features legal gambling and the laws of the State of Nevada require that all persons so engaged should be fingerprinted as a safeguard against an infiltration into gambling activities by the criminal element. There is no criminal record in the files of the Identification Division for George Raft. According to information taken from the fingerprint cards, Raft was born September 26, 1895, in New York City, has grey hair and brown eyes, stands 5'9 1/2" tall and weighs 160 pounds. His occupation was listed as motion picture actor.

B. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

1. [REDACTED]

b7D

b7D

b7D

b7D

b7D

b7D

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):



For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99407-3 enclosure pgs 7-9

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 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

2. OWNEY MADDEN

On September 22, 1946, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Little Rock Office was proceeding to Washington by American Air Lines and happened to take a seat next to [REDACTED] of New York City. During the course of the trip [REDACTED] making conversation and stated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (62-52345-18, enclosure p. 8) b7c b7D

[REDACTED] interviewed by the Los Angeles Office in 1944 in connection with a fugitive investigation, revealed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (91-1221-642 p. 5) b7c b7D

The New York Office reported that in 1937, while SA [REDACTED] was in Little Rock, Arkansas, he received information that George Raft was the guest of Owney Madden for at least two weeks during that summer. During the course of Raft's visit, the Agent observed him at a baseball game in the company of Mack Gray. (65-54233) b7c

In 1945, the Little Rock Division reported that one of the foremost mobsters and racketeers in that area was Owen Vincent Madden, who lived at Hot Springs. It was alleged that Madden was part owner of a jewelry store where large quantities of stolen jewelry were cut, reset, sold and distributed to the purchasing public.

Madden was formerly considered the number one racketeer in New York City. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (62-75147-25-5-18) b7c b7D

3. FURDRESS INVESTIGATION

Raft was interviewed by Agents of the Los Angeles Office in 1938 in connection with the investigation of "Louis Lepke" Buchalter. At that time Raft admitted association with Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, "who was a member of the "Big 6," a group of gang leaders in New York during the prohibition era. He also admitted knowing [REDACTED] and Jacob Shapiro. Raft told the Agents on that occasion that when he first arrived in California in 1927, he was picked up by the authorities due to his past connections in the cafe business in New York, but after a short time they discontinued bothering him. b7c

Raft also said that he left New York City 11 years before when "Ownie" Madden, the Irishman, and his mob were in charge, and at that time there were no Jews in control and naturally he would not have known the subjects of the investigation, Shapiro or Louis Buchalter. (65-54233)

4. BUGSY SIEGEL

[REDACTED] b7c

On October 4, 1946, a Special Agent of the New York Office advised that [REDACTED] was then residing at [REDACTED] in New York City. On a lease for the property she was listed as being [REDACTED] and gave George Raft as one of her references. (62-81518-287, page 20) b7c

In 1946, the Los Angeles Office advised that "Bugsy" Siegel, George Raft and Alan Smiley received considerable publicity in the "Los Angeles Press" in connection with Siegel's arrest for bookmaking which is a felony in California. Rath and Smiley were with Siegel when he was arrested, and Siegel and Smiley entered pleas of guilty and were each fined \$250. (62-81093-26, Section 1, Serials 1-85)

By teletype dated 12-27-46, the Salt Lake Division advised the Bureau that the Flamingo Hotel Casino, Bars and Restaurant formally opened on 12-26-46 under the supervision of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel. Among the celebrities present was George Raft, who did not want to attend the opening because of danger to his movie contract through continued association with Siegel. Siegel cursed Raft and compelled him to attend the opening, and [REDACTED] assisted Siegel in compelling Raft's attendance. (62-81518-324) b7c

5. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7c
b7D
(62-81093-46-1)

[REDACTED] b2
b7D

[REDACTED] b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] b7D b7C

(62-75147-46-5-28)

[REDACTED] b7D b7C

[REDACTED] b7D b7C

[REDACTED] (39-2258-244)

In 1945 Los Angeles stated that Raft had been involved in activities concerning hoodlums and gangsters in California since the early 1930's. For example, in August, 1934, a story appeared in West Coast newspapers that Raft had been in a fight at the Brown Derby with one Sam Satz who had made a remark regarding an operation Raft had performed on his cauliflower ear. This article stated Raft was a former prize fighter and was accompanied by his bodyguard, Mack "Killer" Gray, at the time of the fight. (62-75147-26-59)

By letter to the Director dated November 1, 1947, the Los Angeles Office advised that a confidential informant (technical surveillance) stated Raft contacted [REDACTED] sometime between October 24 and 31, 1947, and they made arrangements to dine together. Informant learned that Raft maintained an office at 202 North Cannon Drive, Hollywood, and [REDACTED] Flamingo Hotel was doing fine. (39-2258-13) b7c

6. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED] (62-75147, Sub 26 Section 9, Serial 79-8)

[REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7D b7C
(62-81093-26-86 p. 4, 5, 12)

[REDACTED] b7D b7C
(62-81518-511X)

7. CAPONE GANG

A Chicago report dated 8-21-46 entitled "Reactivation of the Capone Gang" set forth information concerning the activities of alleged important figures in the Chicago syndicate. These individuals were the Capone brothers, [REDACTED] and several others. On page 105 of the report, George Raft, movie actor, is listed as a b7C celebrity contact [REDACTED] of Chicago. (62-81093-9-450)

[REDACTED] b7D
(62-81093-9-310889)

A memorandum for the Director from Assistant Director E. J. Connelley written in Chicago, Illinois, on August 2, 1946, regarding the Capone Gang pointed out [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7D b7C
(62-81093-9-218, p. 3)

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] (62-75147-9-8-62)

In 1949, the Chicago Office reported that George Raft was the constant companion of [REDACTED] when Raft was visiting in Chicago. Chicago pointed out [REDACTED] has been associated with the Capone gang and gambling syndicate in Chicago, and has allegedly participated in robberies and murders in the Chicago area. (62-75147-15-80) b7C

The Washington Times-Herald for October 2, 1953, printed an International News Service release dated the previous day crediting George Raft with getting John Capone out of jail. According to the article Raft was with Capone, described as the 49-year-old brother of the late Al Capone, at the time he was arrested, Beverly Hills. Raft was quoted as saying "I'm an old friend of John's. He called me. We were just having a few drinks. Let him go, and I guarantee you he will get out of town on the first plane." The pair allegedly left town "in a hurry." (62-99407-A)

8. GAMBLING AND THE SYNDICATES

In 1947 the Los Angeles Office reported that they had conducted considerable investigation which indicated that a number of prominent gangsters who formerly operated in the midwest and eastern section of the United States had moved their headquarters to California. Prominently listed in this group were included Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, a former member of Murder, Inc., and [REDACTED] It was stated that they were connected with associates of "The Syndicate" which included such well-known underworld figures as Frank Costello, slot machine king of New York City, and Joe Adonis, leading Brooklyn racketeer who is a close personal friend of George Raft, actor-hoodlum. This group also included [REDACTED] who formerly operated in New York and Cleveland, and Jack Dragna, an Italian alien prominent in the Los Angeles underworld reputed to have important political connections in California. (62-75147-47-7-54) b7C

[REDACTED] b2 b7D

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] 66-17080-10)

In 1950 the Los Angeles Office reported that Raft continued to be closely associated with sneak gambling games operated in the Los Angeles area. He received no publicity in this regard at that time, and it appeared that he acted as a steerer of motion picture celebrities to the gambling games. (62-75147, Sub 26, Sect. 26-357)

While the majority of Raft's contacts and activities have been reported by the Los Angeles Office, it is also noted that he frequently visits known hoodlums ~~and~~ gangsters ~~and~~ other cities including New York, Miami, Chicago and Kansas City.

In 1941, the Miami Office advised that The Frolics Club in Miami was being remodeled at that time, and it was stated that George Raft would run the Club. It was noted that the gambling casino, if permitted to open as a part of the Frolic's Club, would not be operated by Raft. He was suppose to be in charge of the over-all operation including entertainment [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (62-44462-52-1410) b7✓

In 1954 the Los Angeles Office reported that George Raft, accompanied by [REDACTED] visited San Juan, Puerto Rico. Raft made a statement to the newspaper in San Juan that he proposed to rent or construct in Puerto Rico, with his associates, a building in the same style as the large casinos in Europe. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Los Angeles also reported that Raft was observed at the Hollywood Park race b7✓

track, Inglewood, California, on June 12, 1954, in the company of

[REDACTED] Raft and [REDACTED] were observed together in the grandstand. (62-75147-26-450824) b7c

[In Chicago report entitled "Reactivation of the Capone Gang" dated September 12, 1946, information set forth that on July 22, 1946, [REDACTED], Assistant United States Marshal, Los Angeles, voluntarily furnished Agents of the Los Angeles Office with information that [REDACTED], associate of Benjamin (Bugs) Siegel and George Raft, motion picture actor, as well as [REDACTED], associate in the Western Alcohol Company, were the subjects who had "taken" Sam Goldwyn, Hollywood motion picture producer, and [REDACTED], Chicago Department store operator, for an alleged \$155,000 in a gin rummy game on July 21, 1946.] (62-81093-9-310, pgs 36 and 37) b7c per 450825

In 1947, the Los Angeles Office reported that Anthony M. Stralia, WAS. Tony Cornero, a notorious underworld figure was the operator of the gambling ship, SS Lux. It was stated that Raft succeeded Cornero as front man for this gambling barge following difficulty encountered by Cornero when he and his companions conspired to make a false claim against the government. (62-75147, Sub 26, Section 14, Serial 190)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
(66-2542-12126) b7c b7d

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
(63-652-2) b7c b7d

9. [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] b7c

In connection with the interview of [REDACTED] the victim of an \$8000 jewelry burglary, it was ascertained that she recalled being approached by three men who attempted to become acquainted with her during a visit to a resort in Palm Springs, California, in March, 1949. They were identified by an acquaintance of hers as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was suspected of being a fence and receiver of stolen property in the Los Angeles area. [REDACTED] was believed to have dealt in stolen furs. (87-11000-102, page 39) b7c

Los Angeles report of SA [REDACTED] in November, 1949, on jewel theft investigations described [REDACTED] associate of the late Bugsy Siegel and a close associate of George Raft. (87-12304-26-9) b7c

In February, 1947, SA [REDACTED] while in Los Angeles, California, to testify as a witness in a murder case, was approached by a man who identified himself as [REDACTED] advised Agent [REDACTED] that he was personally acquainted with the Director and Mr. Tolson inasmuch as he had accompanied them to the opening of the Del Mar Race Track in San Diego, California. The Director and Mr. Tolson both stated that they had never met [REDACTED] ascertained [REDACTED] associate of George Raft and [REDACTED] and reported [REDACTED] engaged in bookmaking activities in the Los Angeles vicinity [REDACTED] (88-2814-54) b7c

Investigation conducted regarding the theft of \$430,000 worth of jewelry indicated that [REDACTED] were registered in the Desert Retreat Hotel at the time burglaries occurred there. (87-11000-57) b7c

10. VITO GENOVESE

A memorandum containing available data concerning Raft was prepared in the New York Office on November 17, 1944. It mentioned Raft's connections with one Vito Genovese who, prior to 1934, had been a leader of an Italian gang on the lower west side of New York City. It was learned that while Raft was in Italy in 1944 on a USO Camp Show Tour, he arranged for the employment of Genovese by the Allied Military Government in Italy. [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED]
(65-54233, serial 1)

b7D

[REDACTED]
9, 10)

11. [REDACTED]

b7C

SAC E. E. Conroy of the New York Office sent a note to the Director on December 1, 1944, with information concerning [REDACTED]

12. [REDACTED]

b7C

By letter dated July 3, 1947, the Los Angeles Office advised that [REDACTED]

b7D
b7C

[REDACTED] b2
b7D
(62-81518-477)

13. CALL GIRLS, OBSCENE FILM, RAIDEN MATTER

[REDACTED] b7C
b7D
(62-75147-26 section 17, serial 243)

During the White Slave Traffic Act Investigation in March, 1949, of [REDACTED] it was ascertained that the victim, a prostitute named [REDACTED] was in contact with George Raft while the latter was staying at the Sherry Netherlands Hotel in New York. (31-74879)

[REDACTED] b7C
b7D
(66-16453-1)

In 1952 and 1953, the Los Angeles Office reported that George Raft was interviewed by Bureau Agents in connection with another investigation. In an attempt to locate Raft at his residence in Beverly Hills, it was determined that his house was occupied by a young woman who Raft later advised was his girl friend. He stated he allowed the girl to live in his house with her parents while he was absent from California, and upon returning found that her parents were ill and he could not move them from the house so he took an apartment in Beverly Hills where he was interviewed. At the time of the interview, Raft was accompanied by two male associates one of whom was recognized as [REDACTED] Agents observed that Raft is small in stature, has a very limp hand shake and gives the personal impression quite contrary to that which he portrays in motion pictures and television shows. (62-75147-26-37-445) b7C

[REDACTED] b2
b7D
(72-472-1556)

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

Price to Rosen memorandum dated 11-28-44, captioned
[REDACTED] et al., Interstate Transportation of Obscene Matter"
stated it has been reliably reported that sizeable libraries of obscene motion
picture films are possessed by [REDACTED] Lou Costello, George Raft
and others. (71-1788-95) b7C

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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62-99407-3 enclosure pgs 23-25

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[REDACTED]

b7c b7D

[REDACTED]

b7c b7D

[REDACTED]

b7c b7D

The Los Angeles Office in an investigation entitled "Racketeering Activities in the Los Angeles Field Division - Information Concerning" by report dated January 24, 1946, verified much of the information regarding [REDACTED]. A possible White Slave violation by Raft was considered but evidence necessary for prosecution was not found.

b7c

On a memorandum dated January 31, 1946, describing Raft's activities mentioned above with the recommendation that Los Angeles discontinue all active investigation of Raft and his associates, the Director commented, "I don't agree completely. I think it is useless to try and obtain anything against Raft re White Slavery for his victims are often even lower than he is if that is possible but it may be possible to get something re 'hot jewelry.'" (62-75147-26-96)

14. GAMBLING LICENSE

In 1954, Los Angeles reported that George Raft was alleged to be a new shareholder in the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. This report also noted that Tony Martin, the singer, owned a share in this hotel. The "Hollywood Reporter" for November 16, 1954, stated that Martin and Raft each invested \$65,000 for a one percent stock interest in the hotel and gambling casino. (62-75147-26-42-458)

*GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION*
G. I. F. report that Raft had not been permitted by the State of Nevada to get his name placed on the list of owners of gambling clubs in that state. (62-75147-26-46-478-20)

In June, 1956, the Salt Lake City Division advised that "The Reno Evening Gazette" published in Reno, Nevada, for December 21, 1955, carried an article stating that George Raft had been approved for a gambling license in the Hotel Flamingo. (62-75147-38-594)

An article in the "Los Angeles Times" of December 20, 1955, noted the State Commissioner of Nevada had granted Raft a gambling license in that state. Noting that the license had previously been denied him the article stated that the reversal of the State Tax Commission's decision came after Raft was questioned for an hour about underworld figures with whom his name had been linked in a previous investigation made by the Tax Commission in the spring of 1955. As a result of the earlier probe, Raft's application for a license was denied on the basis that he would be an undesirable figure in Nevada gambling. The article continued by stating that Raft in answer to questions claimed he worked in places run by bootleggers early in his career, but always only as an entertainer.

Raft said he knew Bugsy Siegel, "like everyone else in Hollywood" but had no close association with him. The article also stated that Raft mentioned he was on speaking terms with Virginia Hill, at whose rented home Siegel was slain and that he knew Joe Adonis but not well enough to know his last name.

The article quoted Raft as saying that John Capone, a brother of the late gangster, Al Capone, was once linked with him when he went to John's hotel room to aid an inebriated friend. Raft reportedly told the Tax Commission he raised the money for his two percent interest in the Flamingo Hotel by borrowing \$30,000 on his Cold Water Canyon home in Beverly Hills, \$20,000 on his insurance annuities and \$10,000 from his agent, Charles K. Feldman. He claimed he had repaid all of the loans through earnings from a recent motion picture he had made.

The article continued that before the Tax Commission voted unanimously to recommend the license for Raft, the commission chairman, Robbins Cahill, observed that many of the early entertainers had associated with hoodlums because most establishments presenting entertainment were run by bootleggers. He added, however, that he was satisfied none of Raft's connections existed today. (62-75147-26, Section 47-487, p 16)

15. [REDACTED] b7c

Director received a teletype from SAC, Los Angeles in April, 1953, revealing that [REDACTED] called at the Los Angeles Office on 4-2-53, where he was interviewed by ASAC Clegg. He stated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had just had a conversation with George Raft who told him that while he was in Europe during 1952, he wanted to use [REDACTED] in a motion picture but was advised by John Edgar Hoover that if [REDACTED] were used in the picture that it could not be shown in America. The Bureau instructed Los Angeles to have Raft interviewed at once to make him clearly understand that irresponsible statements of that nature attributed to the Director and the FBI would not be tolerated. Raft was interviewed on April 10, 1953, and denied having made the alleged statements to any person. He volunteered that [REDACTED] asking for employment on a picture. Raft claimed that he told [REDACTED] that hiring and firing personnel was not within his province. On the occasion Raft expressed personal opposition to communism. (65-26282-4) (62-99407-1, 2) b7c b7D

16. ROLES AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

In the motion picture entitled "I'll Get You" George Raft played the part of an FBI Agent working undercover in England. It was an indifferent role and no features objectionable to the Bureau were noted. (94-45777)

At the time Raft portrayed a law enforcement officer in the television production, "I Am the Law," The Los Angeles Office (1954) observed that the shows did not always picture law enforcement in a favorable light. Raft continued to play his "tough type" roles and used many slang expressions which have long since become obsolete in law enforcement. The general impression of the programs gathered from viewing them was not favorable to law enforcement. (62-75147-26-450, p. 24)

SECTION II PUBLIC SOURCE DATA RE RAFT

A. BACKGROUND AS RELATED IN PRESS

In January, 1952, the Los Angeles Office reported that an article appeared in the "Pasadena Star News" for July 1, 1951, giving a thumbnail sketch of a publicity agent's concept of the life history of Raft. This article was prompted by Raft's new radio show called "Rocky Jordan" and the television show in which Raft was scheduled to appear.

The article stated that Raft began life in New York's "Hell's Kitchen" where he boxed his way into Madison Square Garden. Soon he abandoned the ring to join the chorus of Texas Guinan's Night Club in the Beaux Arts Hotel as a dancer in the male chorus line. He was reportedly an expert at dancing the Charleston and attracted the attention of Larry Fay, an underworld czar whose close friends were New York millionaires, according to the article. It was alleged that Fay introduced Raft to the then Prince of Wales who became a pupil of Raft and it was alleged that the Prince of Wales gave Raft a solid gold cigaret case which Raft carries to this day. When Fay bought the old club "Florida" off Broadway, Raft was signed as its star. The notices and plugs of columnist Walter Winchell and Mark Hellinger boosted Raft but his popularity allegedly soared only after the death of Rudolph Valentino, the late movie star. Raft was then cast as one of the characters in the motion picture "Scar Face" which featured Paul Muni. This was supposed to have been his first real motion picture hit.

The article alleged that Raft "discovered" the late motion picture actress Carole Lombard and had her play a role opposite him in the movie "Bolero." It continued that Raft never drinks, smokes only on occasion, and trains as he did as a young prize fighter. The press agent said that although Raft was 54 years of age he looked much younger and was in excellent physical condition. (62-75147-26-A)

George Raft has been thoroughly castigated by columnist Westbrook Pegler on several occasions. In his column for October 28, 1946, Pegler discussed the dice game in Leo Durocher's apartment in which Raft took \$18,500 from Martin Shurin. Pegler alleged that Durocher and Raft had been intimate associates for a number of years. He included among Raft's other friends Bugsy Siegel, Mack Gray, wa, Max Greenberg

and Owney Madden. In his column of June 25, 1947, Pegler included Lucky Luciano and "Little Augie" Carfano, a well-known New York hoodlum, among the mutual friends of Raft and Siegel. Pegler's column of October 22, 1947, repeated much of this information. (62-80230-A, 62-81518-A and 62-81093-9-A)

An article carrying the Hollywood by-line of Aline Mosby appeared in the Washington Times-Herald on May 16, 1947 with the headline "Misunderstood George Is Sweet and Gentle At Heart." The article was a particularly sentimental diatribe designed to paint Raft as a big-hearted graduate of New York's Hell's Kitchen who could not turn his back on his friends of former years. It claimed that Raft's reputation as a tough stemmed entirely from the type of roles he played on the screen. According to the article, Raft does not drink and plays bridge rather than poker. He is described as loving stewed tomatoes, kids and baseball. Part of the article was based on conversations the writer had with Mack Gray whom she describes as Raft's pal longer than either can remember. When asked about his nickname of Killer, Gray stated that he was once called that in fun by Carole Lombard and the label was pounced on by publicity men. He stated, "I'm no killer. I've never even had a traffic ticket. They say I'm Raft's bodyguard. Look at George. Does he look like a guy who needs a bodyguard? Better to say he's my bodyguard." Without mentioning him by name, the article referred to the columnist who insists Raft cheats at craps and gambles at baseball, meaning, of course, Pegler, and claims that the columnist is all wet. It quotes Mack Gray as saying that the charges were originated by "a war worker in 1943 who was sore because he lost money gambling with Raft." Gray added, "He is behind bars now as a draft-dodger too." The article continues: "The only sport Raft lays lettuce on is horse-racing and he belongs to a bridge, not a poker club. In short, said the shadow, Raft is danged near a 100 per cent lily-white leaguer.

"In a town where more corn goes into liquor than fritters, Raft is a teetotaler. The only thing stewed at his night club table are the tomatoes, his favorite dish.

"He takes care of more broken-down bums than the midnight mission and he's a sucker for a sad tale. He grew up in New York's Hell's Kitchen and he's never forgotten its characters.

"George danced in New York for years and met a lot of guys who ended up on the other side of the fence. But just because they did doesn't mean they're not his friends now," said Mack. (62-75147-A)

In 1951 the Los Angeles Office reported that Raft's name had appeared very little in the news during the recent months. Paul V. Coates, columnist for the Los Angeles "Mirror" reported on March 14, 1951, that early films in which Raft appeared as an actor caused the public to become a "nation of hoodlum coddlers. It is customary now to think of these bums as romantic personalities. Hollywood's slightly dim-witted cafe society is probably the worst offender in this respect. Some years ago Benny Siegel came out here and was immediately accepted as a social leader." (62-75147 Sub 26, Sec. 30-397)

The September, 1955, issue of the magazine, "HUSH-HUSH," a scandal-type publication in the manner of "Confidential" and other expose magazines, carried an article by Mike Gotram entitled "Why George Raft Was Blackballed In Las Vegas." The article concerned the decision of the Nevada Tax Commission turning down Raft as a share holder in the Flamingo Club, a hotel-casino in Las Vegas built by Bugsy Siegel shortly before his assassination. As noted above, Raft's case was reconsidered by the Commission and he was permitted to take a one per cent share in the Flamingo. According to the article, Raft was originally turned down because of his reputed association with well-known gangsters and hoodlums. When questioned for details concerning the hearing, the article stated that the Tax Commission declared that it was classified police material and they had no right to discuss it. The article pointed out that Raft had never been charged with anything more serious than traffic violations and that the refusal of the commission to give details on which their decision was based, led to numerous rumors concerning Raft's intimate association with underworld characters such as John Capone and Mickey Cohen. It mentioned that Raft in 1944 had testified on behalf of Bugsy Siegel and Allen Smiley when the latter two were arrested for bookmaking. The article stated "Insiders who know the score in Las Vegas consider the deal Georgie (Raft) got in Carson City a raw one. First, they know Raft well enough to realize that he is no underworld character, appearances to the contrary. Though the tough guy of the movies has a disarmingly gentle personality and he's always been straight as 'The Strip' in Las Vegas, Raft likes the flamboyant way of life of his gangster friends." The article mentioned Raft's "whirlwind affair" with Betty Doss and the subsequent beating of her attorney, Ed Raiden. The article concluded by stating "George Raft's crime is that he had the decency to remember a boyhood pal (Siegel) everyone else wanted to forget. In Las Vegas this kind of crime doesn't pay."

The Los Angeles "Herald Express" of March 23, 1954, contained an article stating that a Silver Anniversary Testimonial Dinner

was given for Raft at the Friars Club in Beverly Hills on March 22, 1954. The article said that Raft "wept openly" during this dinner and that speakers included Jack L. Warner, Daryl Zanuck, Dore Schary, George Burns and Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom who said Raft taught him how to fight. (62-75147 Sub 26 Sec. 40-450 P. 14)

B. PRESS ACCOUNTS OF RAFT'S ASSOCIATION WITH KNOWN HOODLUMS

1. Owney Madden

The following appeared in an article on Mickey Cohen in the New York Sunday News on September 18, 1949: "One time Owney Madden made so bold as to hang his hat in a Malibu beach cottage for the Summer. He was here to visit his protege, George Raft, who was just beginning to click in the movies.

"Owney and Raft were both products of Hell's Kitchen, a section of Manhattan which cradled a number of New York's famous and infamous.

"Owney went farther and faster than Georgie. During prohibition, while Raft was dancing, first in a club far down on the East Side and then in Texas Guinan's emporium, Owney was the undisputed boss of the beer racket. Both Owney and Georgie were pals with a lot of wrong guys--guys who woke up from time to time with holes in their heads.

"It was Owney who thought that Raft would make good in Hollywood. Georgie did, and Owney came out now and then to see him." (62-75147-26-A)

2. Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel

(PAPER NOT IDENTIFIED IN REPORT)

^{NEWS}
An item on November 21, 1940, stated that Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel was in the Los Angeles County jail at that time and had among his possessions a check for \$3,200, which check was written by Siegel and endorsed by George Raft. Siegel was in jail for the murder of Harry "Big Greeny" Greenberg, Los Angeles gambler. (62-75147-26-59 & 41)

An article appearing in the Washington Post for June 25, 1947, shortly after the murder of Bugsy Siegel stated, "Siegel's Hollywood playboy front in which he hobnobbed with film celebrities

like his pal, George Raft, was just to cover up his participation in an international narcotics ring. (62-75147-26-A)

An article appeared in the Los Angeles Times on July 18, 1944, with a headline, "George Raft Aids Defense at Trial of Bugsy Siegel," which described Raft's intercession in the preliminary hearing regarding bookmaking charges placed against Siegel and Allen Smiley. Raft testified that neither of them were "making book" when the Deputy Sheriff dropped in. Raft addressed questions to the District Attorney while being interrogated on the stand and was reminded by the judge that he was not permitted to question people from the witness stand. Raft retorted "Why not, I'm entitled to free speech aren't I? Besides I think this whole thing is ridiculous!" Raft said that he and Smiley were playing gin rummy with friends and making telephone bets on horses in Nevada, where off-track betting is legal when the raid was made. (62-73497-10)

3. John Capone

In 1953, the Los Angeles Office reported that the Los Angeles "Times" for September 30, 1953, contained an article relating that the Beverly Hills Police Department had arrested John Capone, brother of the late Al Capone, Chicago underworld king of the prohibition era. It was stated the arrest took place on September 29, 1953, at the Beverly Hills Hotel where Capone was registered as a guest with an associate, Joseph Laino, who claimed to be a street inspector for the city of Chicago. Capone was found to carry \$5,362 in currency and Laino had only \$89 in his possession. They claimed they were preparing to leave for Las Vegas on their way to Chicago. After fingerprinting and photographing, Capone and Laino were released from police custody when the actor George Raft, who was in the hotel at the time of the arrest, vouched that Capone and Laino would leave Beverly Hills immediately. It was Raft's explanation that he is an old friend of John Capone and that Capone had called him to the hotel where they were having a couple of drinks. Capone insisted that he was in Los Angeles to collect some money from a person who had previously borrowed from him, and Laino describing his job with the Chicago Street Department stating, "I just work off and on. I handle complaints on loose manhole covers." Capone and Laino were lodged in the Beverly Hills Jail overnight and their attorney interceded for them the next morning following their arrest along with Raft. Raft was not held. (62-75147-26-447)

4. Mickey Cohen

✓ An article appearing in the Los Angeles Herald and Express on August 22, 1949, indicated that a telephone tap placed on underworld character Mickey Cohen by the Los Angeles Police Department revealed that he and a couple of other "fellows" were "out at George Raft's last night." They were alleged to have had a grand dinner and enjoyed themselves very much. Cohen's wife was quoted as telling another individual that they really have a grand time when they go out there (Raft's) and they think nothing of staying out all night.

5. Frank Carbo

"Sports, Illustrated" magazine for January 24, 1955, carried an article entitled "The Boxing Monopolies Put On The Squeeze." It told the story of how Donald Rettman was frozen out of the management of a promising middleweight fighter named George Johnson.

"One day in November, 1953, Rettman ran into his old friend, the Wilmington syndicate man, who listened to his troubles and then produced an idea which Rettman, in the state of mind he had reached, was glad to hear. George Raft, the movie star, will be in Wilmington soon, the gambler said. Raft was interested in boxing and liked to have pieces of fighters and was on close terms with the hoodlums whose prototypes he played on the screen. For instance, Frank Carbo. Carbo liked Raft so well, in fact, that instead of insisting on the usual 15% minimum as his share of the management contract, he asked Raft for only 10% on fighters Raft owned; sometimes even less. If Rettman could make a deal with Raft, the gambler pointed out, he and Johnson would have Raft's influence working for them on the West Coast and Carbo's protection in the East, a wonderful combination. However, as it turned out before a deal could be consummated with Raft, promoter Herman Taylor in some way managed to inveigle Johnson into signing a contract with Taylor." (60-4430-34)

(COMMENT: [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] (62-75147-37-149-254)

b7c b7D

C. MISCELLANEOUS PRESS ACCOUNTS

Bureau files contain several press items from the Los Angeles papers in December, 1946, regarding a suit for \$300,000 brought against Raft by Edward Raiden, a Hollywood Attorney. Also named as defendants were Raft's bodyguard, Mack Gray, Ben Platt, and Gray's brother Joe. The available news accountants treated the affair in a very sensationalized manner. It was alleged that while Mack Gray held Raiden and pinned his arms behind his back that Raft had beaten him with his fists and then kicked him in the groin and stomach with his knee. Final dispositions of the suit is not given in Bufiles. (65-5233-3 encls.)

A Washington "Times-Herald" newspaper article of July 25, 1946, captioned "George Raft's Dice Victim Craps Out as a Draft Dodger" states that Morris Shurin was apprehended by the FBI as a draft dodger on July 24, 1946. The article states "Shurin, 33, ~~who~~ received the condolences of friends after he faded actor George Raft in a craps game in baseball's Leo 'Lippy' Durocher's apartment. Raft made 13 successive passes and took \$18,500 from Shurin." (25-288460-7)

A news account of Martin Shurin's complaint regarding the dice game in Durocher's apartment on March 24, 1944, appeared in the Washington Post on November 16, 1944. The article quoted Mack Gray described as "protector, chauffeur, fellow gambler and general handy man" for Raft. In his statement, Gray said that it sounded like a "frame-up" to him and that Raft made enough in motion pictures that he did not need that kind of money. (80-634-A)

In 1949 the Los Angeles Office reported that a syndicate from that city headed by film actor George Raft and including financier Todd Horn and Billy Mann had purchased the Desert Retreat Hotel in Palm Springs, California, for \$250,000. This purchase was noted in the Los Angeles "Herald and Express" of November 22, 1948. The article also mentioned that extensive improvements and additions would be made to the resort which is considered one of the swankiest in Palm Springs and that Mann would be the General Manager with Raft acting as a silent partner. (62-75147 sub 26, Sec. 19, serial 285) [REDACTED]

87-11000-102 P. 39)

b2 b7D

SECTION III MISCELLANEOUS AND UNSUBSTANTIATED INFORMATION

A. ALLEGED CONNECTIONS WITH NATIONAL GAMBLING SYNDICATE

[REDACTED] interviewed by the Newark Office in connection with a fugitive investigation in 1944, described herself [REDACTED] had associated with Raft in Hollywood, California, and Reno, Nevada, where he had done a considerable amount of gambling. She advised that Joe Adonis, well-known crime figure, was a very close friend of Raft and that they were both closely associated with Willy Moretti who operated a large gambling house in Cliffside, New Jersey. The reporting Agent commented that her reliability was somewhat doubtful and that too much credence could not be put in her information. (91-1221-599 p. 3, 4) b7c

[REDACTED] (62-75147-26, Sec. 16, Serials 195-242) b7c b7D

In 1949 the Los Angeles Office advised that Raft continued to handle interests in Palm Springs, California, and was reported to have a large amount of control over gambling activities in the Los Angeles area.

[REDACTED] (62-75147 Sub 26, serial 321) b7D

[REDACTED] (62-75147 Sub 26, Sec. 27-375) b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(62-75147, Sub 26, Section 33-424) b7D

In May, 1954, the San Juan Division reported that information previously set forth in Los Angeles GII that Raft and associates were attempting to obtain a license and gambling casino in Puerto Rico. Los Angeles later reported that their attempts were unsuccessful. (62-75147-12-38)

B. PERSONAL GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

In May, 1947, the San Diego Office, advised that Jack Dragna, the Los Angeles representative of Trans-America Wire Service, for gambling and bookmaking, or Bugsy Siegel sent George Raft to Tijuana, to discuss subscribing to the Wire Service by Augies Sylvestre, Mexican race track operator, at Tijuana, Mexico. It was stated that Sylvestre resented the efforts of the Trans-American group to get him to subscribe to the Wire Service. (62-75147-221)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b3
26456 6103
JRS
(71-2328-1)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(62-84357-1) b7C

According to the Chicago Crime Commission as reported in Bureau gambling survey in 1951, there were large gambling card games held at the Sheridan Hotel, and these games were frequented by George Raft, Frank Costello and other prominent individuals. (62-32518-1004, p. 92)

C. RELATIONSHIP WITH SIEGEL

289, page 11)

(62-81518-

b7D

section 13, serial 186)

(62-75147 sub 26,

ברוך

(87-11000-57)

b2 b7D

section 18, serials 245, 255)

(62-75147-26,

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"Los Angeles Mirror". columnist Florabel Muir reported in her column of July 19, 1951, that Raft still associated with his "bodyguard" known as Mack (Killer) Gray. (62-75147, 26, 408)

D. OBSCENE FILM PURCHASER

In 1945, the Los Angeles Division advised that it had come to their attention that a very exclusive and closely knit Hollywood ring dealing in elaborately staged and technically perfect obscene motion picture films was in business in that city. It was alleged that the films sold for more than \$500 per reel, the principal market being the wealthy Hollywood movie crowd and other selected groups throughout the country. Among the major studio executives and stars who are believed to have purchased such film for their own personal libraries was George Raft, the motion-picture actor. (62-75147-26-59)

Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: 1-3-57

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LN*

SUBJECT:

Tolson ☒
 Boardman ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Parsons ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Tamm ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Nease ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holloman ☒
 Gandy ☒

For record purposes, [redacted] of the "Saturday Evening Post," Washington Office, advised that the magazine was going to run a series of stories written by George Raft in which allegedly Raft would reveal some of his contacts with hoodlums and the like in years gone by. [redacted] stated the Post was doubtful if Raft would tell very much and he wondered if, for guidance purposes, we could give him a rundown on Raft so the Post would know if he was telling the truth in his articles. *b7c*

[redacted] was informed that we could not give him any rundown on Raft's background, that as far as we know he had no fingerprint arrest record and, as to his contact with hoodlums and the like which he allegedly will reveal in his series, this was a matter the Bureau could not help on in any way, shape or form. *b7c*

cc - [redacted]

(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 1/24/85 BY SP5/inf

NOT RECORDED

RECORDED -

JAN 15 1957

64 JAN 13 1957

Raft Not Natural After Cuba 'Fade'

Raft in the Ring, ID

By GENE MILLER

Staff Writer

Movie tough guy George Raft relaxed in Miami Beach Saturday night, not feeling so high after playing a bit part in Fidel Castro's unfilmed Cuban extravaganza.

The renowned poker face was as colorless as he told—with figures—how armed rebels kicked him off the boarding ship at the Havana airport Thursday, marched him into a private office and ripped the things from his two suitcases.

"They were yelling and waving at me and I didn't know what was coming off," said Raft.

"I didn't have a thing . . . just a few pictures . . . socks and shirts . . . then when they showed this Captain Nunez explained he was just a soldier doing his duty and asked me to autograph a picture he stole."

Raft complied willingly. "The plane got away 10 minutes late. The other passengers, white-faced and shak-

ing, probably will never see a movie as long as they live. At the Americana Hotel a few hours later, Raft said he

liked the place and hoped to go back.

He made no predictions about the gambling business. He is Havana's most famous casino greeter and hand-shaker; officially, his title is "Director of entertainment" at the Capri Hotel.

"A whole bunch of people own the casino," he explained nonchalantly.

"I can't say anything about reopening."

In superb Hollywood form, Raft personally kept hoodlums from smashing up the casino. Nary a slot machine was dented.

"I stood at the door, raised my arms, and said: 'No!'" They mumbled and went away."

He was unarmed—no gat and no klieg lights.

"I never told anyone I am an actor," he said, "but I guess I fooled a lot of people."

When the rebels arrived two days later, 175 bunked out in unaccustomed splendor on the fourth and fifth floors, "guests of the house."

"Nicest, quietest guys I've ever seen," said Raft.

Raft is 53. Despite wooding grey hair and slight paunch, he looks 15 years younger.

His next movie, as yet un-

leased, is "Some Like It Hot."

GEORGE RAFT
CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY
ACTIVITIES
IS - CUBA
Miami File # 2-65
Bufile # 109-430

Date 1-9-59

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JAN 14 1959	
FBI - MIAMI	
Bureau	

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145CJF

62-99407-A

NOT RECORDED

117 JAN 28 1959

60 JAN 29 1959



—Special Staff Photos by Doug Kennedy

'They Were Yelling—'

...rebels frisked Raft

Will Gambling Reopen?

...he makes no predictions

March 23, 1962

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/24/85 BY 9125 [signature]

GEORGE RAFT

George Raft (true name Rafft) was born in New York City September 27, 1895, of Italian parentage. He was a dancer and speak-easy entertainer in New York in his younger days and claims to have fought five professional boxing matches including preliminaries in Madison Square Garden.

George Raft has been thoroughly castigated by columnist Westbrook Pegler on several occasions. In his column for October 28, 1946, Pegler discussed a dice game in Leo Durocher's apartment in which Raft took \$18,500 from Martin Shurin. Pegler alleged that Durocher, well-known baseball figure, and Raft had been intimate associates for a number of years. He included among Raft's other friends Bugsy Siegel (deceased), Mack Gray, with aliases, Mack Greenberg and Owney Madden. In his column of June 25, 1947, Pegler included Lucky Luciano and "Little Augie" Carfano a well-known New York hoodlum among the mutual friends of Raft and Siegel. All of the individuals mentioned by Pegler are alleged hoodlums who have operated in various rackets within the United States.

The September, 1955, issue of the magazine "HUSH," a scandal-type publication, carried an article by Mike Getram entitled "Why George Raft Was Blackballed in Las Vegas." The article related the decision of the Nevada Tax Commission wherein Raft was turned down as a share holder in the Flamingo Club, a hotel-casino in Las Vegas built by Bugsy Siegel shortly before his assassination. Raft's name was later reconsidered by the Commission and he was permitted to take a one per cent share in the Flamingo Club. According to the article Raft was originally turned down because of his reputed association with well-known gangsters and hoodlums. When questioned for details concerning the hearing, the article stated that the Tax Commission declared that it was classified police material and they had no right to discuss it. The article pointed out that Raft had never been charged with anything more serious than traffic violations and the refusal

REC-91 62-99402-5
ORIG & ONE TO Legat, London

10 MAR 26 1962

MAY 5 1962

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

9 APR 2 1962

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

George Raft

of the commission to give details on which their decision was based, led to numerous rumors concerning Raft's intimate association with underworld characters such as John Capone and Mickey Cohen. It mentioned that Raft in 1944 had testified on behalf of Bugsy Siegel and Allen Smiley when the latter two were arrested for bookmaking. The article concluded by stating "George Raft's crime is that he had the decency to remember a boyhood pal (Siegel) everyone else wanted to forget. In Las Vegas this kind of crime doesn't pay."

In November, 1940, Bugsy Siegel was in the Los Angeles, California, County Jail and had among his possessions a check for \$3,200, which check was written by Siegel and endorsed by George Raft. Siegel at that time was in jail charged with the murder of Harry "Big Greeny" Greenberg, Los Angeles gambler. Siegel was not convicted of Greenberg's murder.

An article in the "Washington Post" for June 15, 1947, shortly after the murder of Bugsy Siegel, stated "Siegel's Hollywood playboy front in which he hobnobbed with film celebrities like his pal, George Raft, was just to cover up his participation in an international narcotics ring."

An article appearing in the "Los Angeles Times" on July 18, 1944, with a headline, "George Raft Aids Defense at Trial of Bugsy Siegel," described Raft's intercession in the preliminary hearing regarding the bookmaking charges against Bugsy Siegel and Allen Smiley. Raft testified that neither of them were "making book" when a Deputy Sheriff dropped in.

The "Los Angeles Times" for September 30, 1953, contained an article relating that the Beverly Hills, California, Police Department had arrested John Capone, brother of the late Al Capone, Chicago underworld king of the prohibition era. It was stated the arrest took place on September 29, 1953, at the Beverly Hills Hotel where Capone was registered as a street inspector for the city of Chicago. Capone was found to carry \$5,262 in currency and Laine had only \$89 in his possession.

George Raft

They claimed that they were preparing to leave for Las Vegas on their way to Chicago. Capone and Laino were released from police custody when Raft, who was in the hotel at the time of the arrest, vouched that Capone and Laino would leave Beverly Hills immediately. It was Raft's explanation that he is an old friend of Capone and that Capone had called him to the hotel where they were having a couple of drinks.

An article appearing in the "Los Angeles Herald and Express" on August 22, 1949, indicated that a telephone tap placed on underworld character Mickey Cohen by the Los Angeles Police Department revealed that he and a couple of other "fellows" were "out at George Raft's last night."

A Washington, D. C. "Times-Herald" newspaper article of July 25, 1946, captioned "George Raft's Dice Victim Craps Out as a Draft Dodger" states that Morris Shurin was apprehended by the FBI as a draft dodger on July 24, 1946. The article continued "Shurin, 33, received the condolences of friends after he faded actor George Raft in a crap game in baseball's Leo 'Lippy' Durocher's apartment. Raft made thirteen successive passes and took \$18,500 from Shurin."

NOTE:

This does not constitute a summary of info in Bufiles. The above is public source information only.

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 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

George Raft Accused of Tax Evasion

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 1 (UPI) — Actor George Raft was accused yesterday in a Federal grand jury indictment of evading payment of income taxes by understating his income in the amount of approximately \$25,000 for the years 1958-1963.

The indictment carried six counts — five of evading taxes and one of making a false statement.

Mr. Raft, 48, is expected to surrender on the indictment and would be arraigned Sept. 7.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145 ci/ew

62-99407-A

NOT RECORDED

167 SEP 10 1965

The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News ☒
 The Evening Star _____
 New York Herald Tribune _____
 New York Journal-American _____
 New York Daily News _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Baltimore Sun _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Date _____

SEP 1 1965

File -

F/10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/11/66

FROM : *Jm* Legat, London (163-1699) (P)

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
b7D

On 11/1/65 an article appeared in the London "Daily Mirror" indicating the movie actor GEORGE RAFT planned to open a Las Vegas-style nightclub in London.

9-1 b7C
30
b7D b7C

This matter will be followed *[redacted]* and the Bureau will be further advised.

L
b7D

(5)
3 - Bureau
1 - Liaison (sent direct)
1 - London
[redacted]
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145 aif/aw

REC-52 62-99407-6
19
JAN 24 1966

[redacted]
b7C

[redacted]

JAN 11 2 55 PM '66

COMM. INTR. DIV.
JAN 11 1966

70 JAN 25 1966

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Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☒ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)

Federal Rules of
Criminal Procedure (Fed)

☒ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)

Rule 6(b)(2)

☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/9/66

FROM: Legat, London (163-1699) (RUC)

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
b7c
b7D per FBI

ReLonlet 8/2/66.

Enclosed are copies of State Department communications and American Embassy communications concerning this matter. Copies not retained London and no further action contemplated London.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/24/85 BY 9145 aif/aw
Release per STATE

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 9)
- 1 - Liaison (sent direct)
- 1 - London

(5)

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

EX-110

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED
REC-16

62-99407-9
24
SEP 15 1966
FBI

ENCLOSURE
36253 10 20 AM '66



70 OCT 3

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

b7c
per FBI

EXP. PROC.

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SAC , New York

3-2-67

Director, FBI

GEORGE RAFT

BUDED 4-3-67

b7D
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1-24-85 BY 9145/cifw
b7D

[REDACTED]

This request must be complied with promptly in accordance with instructions contained in Section 103 of the Manual of Instructions. Submit the results of your inquiries in a letterhead memorandum. The Bureau is origin in this case and must be advised of all action taken.

The letterhead memorandum must be prepared in such a manner as to fully protect our sources and techniques. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Do not include the names of Special Agents in either the letterhead memorandum or in signed statements. The letterhead memorandum should receive a protective security classification if warranted but should not receive a group classification. Do not include the property statement in the letterhead memorandum unless special reasons exist and any such reasons should be explained in the cover letter.

[REDACTED] b7D

Enc.-1 In connection with the matter involving [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b3 b7D
rule 6E 7dC

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cc's Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Wick
Mr. Gale

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : C. D. DE LOACH

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
ANTI-RACKETEERING
REQUEST FROM SENATOR GEORGE MURPHY
FOR APPOINTMENT FOR RAFT

DATE: 3/15/67

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Senator George Murphy (R. - Calif.) called me at 6:00 p. m., 3/14/67, and stated that he had received a call from George Raft, the movie star and alleged associate of hoodlums. He stated that he knows Raft due to their association in the movies. Senator Murphy does not consider him a personal friend and has never stuck out his neck for Raft. The Senator did state, however, that on one occasion he interceded for Raft with the Internal Revenue Service when Raft was in serious trouble.

Senator Murphy told me that Raft was recently kicked out of England because of alleged hoodlum connections and activities. Raft has protested this action to Senator Murphy and has asked him to write a letter in his behalf to the British Government. The Senator has refused to do this. Raft next asked the Senator if he would intercede for him with someone in the FBI so that he, Raft, could call by FBI Headquarters and take a look at any file the FBI may have on him. The Senator stated he refused to do this, however, he did tell Raft he would be glad to line up an appointment so that Raft could make any statement he might desire to the FBI.

I told Senator Murphy that while we would be glad to merely listen to Raft and take down any statement he might want to make for the record, nevertheless, we would not give Raft one dime's worth of information concerning him or anyone else. The Senator stated he knew this to be true and he would once again call Raft and tell him these facts. He stated he would get in touch with us later in the event Raft did desire to arrange an appointment.

ACTION: For record purposes.

REC 5

62-99407-12

CDD:
(7)

59

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145/SM

MAR 20 1967

April 4, 1967

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Wick
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]

b7c

Mr. George Raft
1275 Beverly Estates Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Mr. Raft:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 28, 1967, concerning the actions of the British Government in excluding you from the United Kingdom. I am certain you realize that the FBI has no jurisdiction in England and has no control over governmental action taken by a foreign country.

b7c

In the event you desire to supplement your letter with additional data, you may be certain that such will be made a matter of permanent record upon receipt at this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

ST-110

REC-50

62-99407-13

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: See memo J. H. Gale to DeLoach captioned "George Raft, Information Concerning," 4-4-67, [REDACTED]

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145/cif/ew

FBI

Date: 4/3/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
(ATT: LIAISON SECTION)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (163-1992)(RUC)

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
[REDACTED] b7D

Enclosed are the original and 5 copies of an LHM suitable for dissemination and 4 copies of an article from the "Wall Street Journal" re SCOPITONE and Tel-A-Sign.

AUSA FAWER, SDNY, was contacted by SA [REDACTED] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/84 BY 8945 a/cw

CC: Wick

1 - Bureau (Encls. 10) ENCLOSURE
(1- LIAISON SECTION)
1- New York

EX-113

REG 22-62-99407-

(6) 20 London
100 + 3 in LHM + 300 article from
Wall St Journal
4/5/67
[REDACTED] b7C

3 APR 4 1967

351
Approved: [Signature]

55

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

14



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York, New York
April 3, 1967

George Raft

Assistant United States Attorney Michael Fawer,
Southern District of New York, advised [REDACTED]

Fawer said [REDACTED]

In this connection, the office of the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, advised in June, 1965, that one [REDACTED] gave stock in the Tel-A-Sign Corporation to George Raft, among others. Raft received 1000 shares.

An article dealing with the Grand Jury inquiry into Tel-A-Sign and SCOPITONE, the "juke box" device purchased by Tel-A-Sign, appeared in the "Wall Street Journal" issue of April 26, 1966. Copies of this article are being furnished with this communication.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/25/85 BY 7145/amp

62-99407-14

ENCLOSURE

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Movie Jukebox Probe

Grand Jury Looks Into Everybody Linked With Scopitone; Tel-A-Sign Assails Inquiry

By SCOTT R. SCHNEDEL

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

NEW YORK—A year or so ago, pleasure-seekers began to notice a strange new device in their favorite bars and cocktail lounges. It was called Scopitone. Put a quarter in it and a screen would light up with a color movie, usually of a pretty girl gyrating to a peppy, swinging tune.

This animated jukebox was the product of Tel-A-Sign, Inc., a Chicago manufacturer of plastic electric signs, which had acquired the U.S. and Latin American rights to Scopitone from a French company. Tel-A-Sign, itself, has had a notably unspectacular history. Its highest annual sales reported so far, for the year ended Feb. 28, 1965, were \$7.8 million; it hasn't yet reported for fiscal 1966. Tel-A-Sign has never paid a dividend, and over the years it has accumulated a net deficit.

For a while, however, prospects of the new amusement device piqued the interest of stock traders, and from a low of \$1 a share on the American Stock Exchange in early 1964, Tel-A-Sign common stock soared to \$9.50 in mid-1965 before skidding to around \$4, where it has hovered since. It closed yesterday at \$3.87½.

But if investor interest has lagged somewhat, this isn't to say the company isn't getting a lot of attention these days. For more than a year, a Federal grand jury in New York has been digging into the background of everyone and everything ever connected with Scopitone and Tel-A-Sign.

Large-Scale Endeavor

Some very odd names are popping up in the questioning—people like Gerardo (Gerry) Catena, Meyer Lansky, Vincent (Jimmy Blue Eyes) Alo and Thomas (Tommy Ryan) Eboli, all top Cosa Nostra chieftains. Some eminently respectable people have been subpoenaed as well, all of which adds to the mystery of the affair. There's no doubt it's a large-scale endeavor, with witnesses being called from New York, New England, the Midwest, California, Las Vegas and Florida.

The U.S. Attorney's office here declines to confirm or deny the existence of the investigation or to comment on reports about it. But from the questions asked of several witnesses it seems obvious that this investigation is part of the Justice Department's continuing search for possible gangster influences on legitimate businesses.

Jukeboxes, pinball machines, vending machines, and other coin-operated devices have long been considered by police to be targets for fronts for underworld operations. "It's easy with cash operations to disguise other activities," a law-enforcement official notes. "The mob is always in things where a lot of cash is handled."

The honesty and integrity of the present Tel-A-Sign management isn't in question, it is understood. Instead, the inquiry is understood to be related to whether hoodlums have succeeded in taking over or intimidating some of the independent franchised concerns that distribute Scopitone machines; or whether unsavory Cosa Nostra henchmen had a financial stake in an intermediate company that was interposed between Tel-A-Sign and Cameca.

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DATE 1/25/85 BY 91452/ew

Corp., the French company that developed the device.

If the latter is the case, it was one of the most sophisticated—and profitable—schemes ever perpetrated by underworld interests in a legitimate business venture. For it gives every appearance of complete legality, and yet each dollar invested almost immediately turned into a paper profit of \$125.

"Old Cagney Movies"

Thus far, no indictments have been returned by the grand jury, and a Scopitone distributor, who has been before the grand jury, scoffs at the entire investigation: "They've been seeing too many old Cagney movies on TV."

Aaron A. Steiger, president of Tel-A-Sign, insists that any suggestion that Scopitone has ever had "any connection with undesirable elements" is "absurd and uncalled for." Mr. Steiger asserted yesterday: "I categorically deny and vigorously resent such an implication from any source. It is incomprehensible that a Federal inquiry with the attendant possible newspaper publicity should be allowed to rise. There has never been even a suggestion of intimidation on the part of anyone to any of our distributors or operators. There certainly has been no suggestion of any take-over by undesirable elements, and none would be countenanced."

But, because of the prominence of some of the names involved in the grand jury inquiry, and because there is no indication of an early let-up in the investigation, a closer look at little Tel-A-Sign and the complex maneuverings that surrounded the birth of Scopitone may well be in order.

In 1962, word had trickled back from France about the diverting machine developed by Cameca, a subsidiary of a large French electronics concern, Compagnie Generale de Telegraphie Sans Fil (CSF). The big jukebox-with-movies had a capacity of thirty-six 3½-minute sound films in color and seemed to have strong possibilities as a money-maker. A number of U.S. businessmen investigated the licensing possibilities, but the eventual winner was a young Miami attorney, Alvin I. Malnik, now 31 years old.

In a recent interview, Mr. Malnik said he had learned about Scopitone through the William Morris Agency, Inc., a large talent agency. However, Nat Lefkowitz, executive vice president of the Morris Agency, has declined to discuss the agency's role or to comment on the current investigation. It is a fact, however, that the agency, as a finder's commission, is entitled to a royalty of 10% of the cost of the films that Scopitone, Inc., currently a subsidiary of Tel-A-Sign, produces.

Additional Investors

Other persons were brought into Scopitone, Inc., to provide working capital, according to Mr. Malnik. Several of them, he said, were introduced through the late George Wood, a Morris Agency vice president who died in November 1963.

These additional investors—10 individuals—lent the infant Scopitone \$27,500. They also made nominal investments, totaling \$6,000, in Scopitone stock.

From Cameca, the Malnik group bought the U.S. and Latin American rights to the Scopitone device for \$33,000 and royalties of \$112 a machine, commencing with the 201st machine made in the U.S., with minimum royalties totaling \$384,000 over nine years.

The Malnik group obviously had no intention of manufacturing or distributing the units itself, and on July 29, 1964, sold 80% of its interest in Scopitone, Inc., to Tel-A-Sign for 850,000 of Tel-A-Sign's 2,202,003 common shares.

It was a rich transaction for the Malnik group. Its \$8,000 of Scopitone stock was traded for Tel-A-Sign stock having a market value of \$3,320,624. Mr. Malnik, for his own block of 963 of Scopitone stock, received 499,500 shares of Tel-A-Sign, which at the time had a market value of \$2,060,437. Even Mrs. Lois Wood, George Wood's widow and the smallest investor in the 11 with only \$49.69 invested in Scopitone, got \$20,625 worth of exchange stock for her holdings.

Original Holders

Mr. Steiger, president of Tel-A-Sign, and three associates last September personally purchased all of Mr. Malnik's Tel-A-Sign and Scopitone holdings. But about 10% of Tel-A-Sign's common shares outstanding are still held by some of the original 11 investors in Scopitone.

Reached by telephone in his cabana at the Eden Roc Hotel in Miami Beach recently, Mr. Malnik asserted there have been "no undesirable elements in Scopitone to my knowledge." He also said he hadn't had any experiences that would indicate the underworld was trying to muscle in on Scopitone distributors.

Most of the others in the original 11-man group have proved considerably less talkative when questioned by a reporter. Among them

born Stacher long was rumored to be a "hidden owner" of Las Vegas gambling casinos, and several casino owners were subpoenaed at his tax trial.

Stacher's mobster connections date from bootlegging operations in the 1920s. A close associate of mobster Longie Zwillman, Stacher was arrested in New York in 1931 with Bugsy Siegel, Jake (Gurrah) Shapiro and Louis (Lepke) Buchalter; the latter two were later executed for their role in Murder, Inc. In 1952, he was convicted of conspiracy in a case that also resulted in a conviction of Meyer Lansky.

A 30-Year Veteran

Alfred Miniaci, a 30-year veteran of the coin-machine business, has headed a group of Bronx-based companies using, for the most part, the name Paramount-Paramount Cigarette Service, Inc., Paramount Automatic Music Co. and Paramount Vending Co. He was listed, with many prominent New Yorkers, on the letterhead of the finance committee for the election of the Democratic slate in last fall's New York City election.

Mr. Miniaci also was the host, according to newspaper reports at the time, at a small dinner in an exclusive New York restaurant on May 2, 1957, attended by Frank Costello. That night, as he returned to his apartment, racket-boss Costello was shot and slightly wounded by a gunman who fired at him in the apartment-house lobby.

(In a recent telephone conversation, Mr. Miniaci declined to discuss Scopitone and the current investigation.)

Irving Kaye, another of the original Scop-

itone 11, is president of Irving Kaye Co., Brooklyn, makers of billiards equipment, including coin-operated tables. (He also declined to discuss Scopitone or the investigation. "It's none of your business, and I'm not going to indulge any information," he declared.)

According to Tel-A-Sign officials, Messrs Green and Kaye together were the original distributors for Scopitone machines in New Jersey, and Mr. Miniaci was the distributor for New York. But only a few machines have been installed in these areas, and Tel-A-Sign has described these distributors as "inactive" for some time.

Maurice Uchitel, who couldn't be reached

are Abe Green, Alfred Miniaci, Irving Kaye and Maurice Uchitel, all of the New York area, who still hold at least 230,000 Tel-A-Sign shares and a 5% minority interest in Tel-A-Sign's Scopitone subsidiary. Among other rights, the 5% interest is entitled to a royalty of \$9.50 for each Scopitone machine made in the U.S.

Mr. Green is known in the coin-machine industry as the head of Runyon Sales Co., based in Springfield, N.J., with affiliates in New York City and East Hartford, Conn. He also is associated with a number of other coin-machine concerns in the metropolitan New York area. (Mr. Green couldn't be reached for comment despite repeated phone calls to his office.)

New Jersey Mafia

In the past, mob-leader Gerardo Catena has been identified publicly as a principal in the Runyon companies. As Attorney General in 1963, Robert Kennedy told a Senate subcommittee that Mr. Catena was in charge of Mafia operations in New Jersey while the big boss, Vito Genovese, served time in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta.

At one time, various Runyon companies were headed by a notorious hoodlum, Joseph (Doc) Stacher. In January 1946, Stacher was listed as president of Runyon Sales Co. of New Jersey, and Mr. Green was listed as secretary-treasurer. In August 1949, Mr. Green was listed as president of Runyon Sales Co. of New York, with Stacher as treasurer.

Stacher, 66, was convicted in Los Angeles in July 1964 on two charges of Federal income-tax evasion. He received a \$10,000 fine and a five-year sentence, suspended on condition that he voluntarily leave the U.S. within 30 days. He is said to be living in Rome. The Russian-

for comment, has garment industry and restaurant interests and is active in Democratic Party affairs in New York City. He was formerly a director of American News Co., a large, publicly owned operator of restaurants, vending machines and concessions, and newsstands.

In his comments yesterday, Mr. Steiger said he had learned about Scopitone from consultants who were seeking possible acquisitions for Tel-A-Sign. "I know virtually nothing about the 11 persons who received Tel-A-Sign stock in exchange for their Scopitone stock," Mr. Steiger continued. "Many of them I never met. Mr. Malnik had a power of attorney from all his Scopitone stockholders, and all negotiations were carried on with him."

Mr. Steiger said his relations with Messrs. Green, Miniaci, Kaye, and Uchitel have consisted of "several meetings, chiefly with their attorney, in which they asked me to be helpful in disposing of their Tel-A-Sign stock or asked me to have our attorneys register the stock, so that they would be in a position to sell it." Mr. Steiger said he had tried to interest potential buyers in the big block held by the foursome. "I also have told their attorney that as soon as the present Tel-A-Sign registration becomes effective, I will make an application to register the stock they hold," he stated. "We have so instructed our attorneys."

Despite this indication that the foursome wants to sell its Tel-A-Sign stock, Mr. Miniaci, in the one comment he permitted himself to make in the recent conversation with a reporter, said he intended to hold on to his Tel-A-Sign investment.

Royalty Rights

After the Malnik group's exchange of shares with Tel-A-Sign in July 1964, Mr. Malnik retained a 20% minority interest in Scopitone. This interest carried with it certain royalty rights, among them a payment of \$33 for each machine made in the U.S. He became a vice president and director of Tel-A-Sign, at an annual salary of \$39,500, and he was entitled under the acquisition agreement to designate one-third of the Tel-A-Sign board of directors.

During 1964, Tel-A-Sign stock rose rapidly and reached a high of \$8 a share. In 1965 it continued its climb, to \$9.50, which would have given Mr. Malnik's personally owned shares a paper value of about \$4.7 million.

About this time, however, a sharp change in the minority block's ownership occurred; the change is still largely unexplained. In April 1965, according to a recent registration statement filed by Tel-A-Sign with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Mr. Malnik and a close business associate and member of the original 11, Jay W. Weiss, made an agreement "retroactively adjusting" the number of Tel-A-Sign shares that were to go to Messrs. Green, Miniaci, Kaye and Uchitel.

These four had received in July 1964 a total of 81,000 Tel-A-Sign shares. But under the stated adjustment, Mr. Malnik "relinquished" 49,000 of his shares to the foursome, and Mr. Weiss "relinquished" 60,000 of his 127,500 shares. This brought the total holdings of Messrs. Green, Miniaci, Kaye, and Uchitel to 230,000 shares. Mr. Malnik also turned over to these four a 5% interest in Tel-A-Sign's Scopitone subsidiary.

Termed a "Settlement"

In an interview, Mr. Malnik described this transaction as a "settlement" of a matter he preferred not to discuss.

Five other persons were members of the original Scopitone group. They were H. I. Fischbach, a Miami Beach attorney who represents Mr. Malnik and who served as secretary of Scopitone and received 10,000 Tel-A-Sign shares; Aaron Weisberg, Las Vegas, who got 32,000 shares; Abe Cohen and Robert Kirmelman, Washington, D.C., who each got 15,000 shares, and Mrs. Lois Wood, who received 5,000 shares.

(Mr. Fischbach, who said he received his interest in Scopitone in return for legal services, referred all inquiries about the current investigation back to Tel-A-Sign.)

Mr. Weissberg is registered as a 5% owner of the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas; he was among those subpoenaed to testify during Stacher's tax investigation. Mr. Weissberg sold most of his Tel-A-Sign stock to the group headed by Mr. Steiger, Tel-A-Sign's president, when Mr. Malnik did, last September. (Reached by telephone at the Sands, Mr. Weissberg declined to talk about Scopitone and the investigation, and referred questions to Mr. Malnik, whom he said he had known "for 23 years, since he was three years old.")

(Mrs. Wood couldn't be reached for comment.)

Mr. Kimelman, partner in a distilling-rectifying firm serving the liquor industry, said recently that he had learned about Scopitone through Mr. Weiss, a friend and customer. Mr. Kimelman said he then introduced Mr. Cohen, a friend of his, to Mr. Weiss, with the result that the Messrs. Cohen and Kimelman each lent Scopitone \$10,000 and obtained a small interest in the company.

Mr. Kimelman and Mr. Cohen said all their contacts were with Mr. Weiss, and through him with Mr. Malnik and Mr. Fischbach, and that they never met the other investors.

"A Casual Investment"

"My connection with Scopitone was a casual investment that turned out to be rather profitable," Mr. Kimelman commented. He said he obtained the Washington distributorship for Scopitone for Mr. Cohen's son, William, but that after a few months the franchise was sold to the Macke Co., a large Washington-based vending concern.

Mr. Kimelman indicated he had testified to the Federal grand jury in New York about his transactions with Scopitone. Mr. Cohen said he hadn't been questioned or subpoenaed and wasn't aware an investigation was under way.

Despite the apparent profitability of its transaction with Tel-A-Sign, the original Scopitone group has had one problem with the 850,000 shares it received—they are all unregistered with the SEC. This means they cannot be sold freely in the open market, although sales can be made to individuals who promise to retain the shares for investment purposes or to register them with the SEC before reselling them. Issuing unregistered shares, on the other hand, doesn't subject the company to the full reports to the SEC that the agency requires for shares it registers.

Over the years, Tel-A-Sign has issued two other large blocks of unregistered shares; so the Scopitone holders weren't the only ones holding them. A total of 1,110,000 of Tel-A-Sign's 2,474,860 common shares outstanding are unregistered.

Under the Market Price

Thus, in the private transaction last September when Mr. Malnik sold his remaining 372,000 shares of Tel-A-Sign and his remaining 15% interest in the Scopitone subsidiary to the Steiger group, Mr. Weiss sold 20,000 shares,

and Mr. Weissberg sold 28,300 shares, the total consideration they received was \$1,165,925, well under the market price at the time. The low price has been attributed at least in part to the shares being unregistered.

Asked why he sold, Mr. Malnik said: "Basically, I should never have been an administrator; I'm a lawyer, and I wanted to devote my time to the practice of law. I had a substantial profit, and I was delighted to sell. I think Scopitone is a good product, though, and I think the industry will be a big one in the course of time."

Mr. Malnik resigned his posts with Tel-A-Sign and Mr. Weiss his posts with the Scopitone subsidiary, and their employment contracts were terminated. They retained a Scopitone distribution franchise for Florida, but they don't appear to have been very active in that business.

Tel-A-Sign has moved ahead with its distribution of Scopitone units, across the U.S. through a network of 50 franchised distributors. It has set up a factory in Chicago and sells the machines to distributors for \$3,500 each, with a \$200 cash deposit required for delivery. The company estimates there are about 1,400 machines in operation, including 25 in Venezuela.

Library of Films

Tel-A-Sign also has had 40 films produced in the U.S. by an independent film producer, featuring such entertainers as Debbie Reynolds, Kay Starr, Vic Damone and Della Reese; in addition it has available a library of about 250 French-produced films. These films are leased to franchise holders in blocks of 36 at a rate of \$720, with four new replacement films a month for \$60.

Scopitone has boosted Tel-A-Sign's earnings. In the year ended Feb. 28, 1965, Tel-A-Sign earned \$380,923 on sales of \$7,822,317, with Scopitone alone contributing net income of \$227,988, against pre-Scopitone fiscal 1965's net income of \$40,205 on sales of \$4,852,423.

In the nine months ended last Nov. 30, Tel-A-Sign's net income, after a Federal tax provision of \$173,334, climbed to \$160,210, or 6½ cents a share. A year earlier when no provision for Federal tax was required, net income was \$33,152, or a cent a share. Sales in the fiscal nine months climbed to \$5,955,850 from \$5,520,662 a year earlier.

But some distributor problems have appeared. The recent registration statement says one distributor, holding two franchises, arranged to convert part of his debts to Tel-A-Sign into a three-year promissory note of \$991,200 and a \$102,273, 6% demand note. This distributor had an additional debt to Tel-A-Sign of \$190,371 for film rentals.

The registration statement adds: "Several exhibitors have failed to comply with agreed-upon purchase schedules because of a lack of an adequate financing program. . . . It will be difficult for the company to achieve substantial sales of the Scopitone in the absence of adequate financing for its purchasers."

World Journal Tribune, Inc.

Publisher of Herald Tribune, World Journal, World Journal Tribune, 125 Barclay Street, New York, N.Y. 10015. Tel.: 577-5100

Beverly Hotel,
125 E. 50th St.
N.Y.C.

April 4, 1967

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Mr. John Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U.S. Dept. of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

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DATE 1/25/85 BY 9146ai/ew

Dear John:

I have known George Raft, the movie star, since the 1920s when he appeared in the best Broadway night clubs and stopped the show cold with his "Charleston" to the rhythm of "Sweet Georgia Brown." I have never known him to do anything that would be in violation of the law.

I ran into George today and he told me he was unhappy over Britain's ban and the stigma that followed because the general public assumes that he is guilty of some illicit and illegal deeds. It has cost him several movie and television jobs. He asked me to tell you all this and also that "one of those" hard-to-pin-down tips is that "the FBI informed Scotland Yard that he was a dangerous character, etc." I assured him I never knew John Edgar Hoover or Clyde Tolson (or any of the FBI chiefs) to punish or slander anyone who never had a criminal record.

I suggested that George see the special agent in charge here in New York. He said he would like to see the Head Man, meaning you, in Washington. He is at the Warwick Hotel, 65 West 54th Street, in New York. (Telephone Number: 247 2700) in case you wish to contact him.

I feel great. I came East especially to shoot some location shots for a one hour tv documentary to be produced by David Wolper Productions. It is on the Lindbergh-Hauptmann trial. I am collaborating on the narrating and will narrate it as soon as I get back to Hollywood at the end of the week.

The Wolper Brass told me they are very excited about it and one of them said: "It could lead to a series." I am also going to narrate "Main Street USA," for Brynie Roy next week.

Azzeva,

EX-110

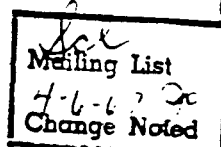
Walter

b7c

Walter Winchell

REC-216

62-99407-15



EX-110

RA

REC-21

April 6, 1967

62-99407-15

Mr. Walter Winchell
Room 306
Beverly Hotel
125 East 80th Street
New York, New York 10022

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DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145ci/s

Dear Walter:

I have received your letter of April 4th and was pleased to know that you are feeling well. I hope you are enjoying your stay in New York.

With respect to the matter you mentioned, I advised Mr. George Raft by letter of April 4th in response to his inquiry that the FBI has no jurisdiction in England and has no control over governmental action taken by a foreign country. I also told him that in the event he desired to supplement his letter with additional data, it would be made a matter of permanent record upon receipt by us.

Sincerely,

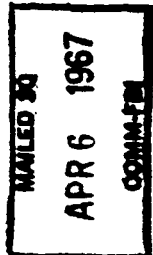
/s/ John

- 1 - Mr. Wick - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Gale - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Winchell is on the Special Correspondents' List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis. George Raft is the well-known movie star

Newspaper publicity indicated he would attempt to see the Director to determine if the FBI had caused his problem with the British government. The Director noted "I shall not see him H." On 3-14-67, Raft attempted to obtain permission to review his file at the FBI through Senator George Murphy. Senator Murphy was advised that we would take any information Raft wished to make available. Raft recently wrote the Director attempting to explain away his hoodlum associates as

PAGE TWO.



Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mr. Walter Winchell

NOTE continued:

characters he met as an entertainer. He requested the Director's assistance in determining why the British government issued an order barring him from that country. The Director's reply to Raft on April 4th is as set out above to Mr. Winchell.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 31, 1967

FROM : J. H. Gale

SUBJECT: **GEORGE RAFT**
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

In view of Raft's recent statement appearing in a Los Angeles newspaper that he was going to see the Director to determine why he had been barred from England as an undesirable, the following is the pertinent information appearing in Bureau files regarding Raft. *b7c*



George Raft (true name Ranft) was born in New York City on September 27, 1895, of Italian parents. He was a dancer and speak-easy entertainer in New York City in his younger days. Raft's movie career began in 1927 and he attained a star status by the early 1930's. *Cole*

Raft has admitted association with Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, notorious New York and Los Angeles area hoodlum, and Owney Madden, prominent New York hoodlum who later moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas. Both Siegel and Madden are now deceased. He allegedly became a West Coast representative of a national gambling syndicate and is said to have had an interest in the Flamingo Hotel, a casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. During his early movie career he was suspected of fingering burglaries of Hollywood, California personages. *b7c*

Raft, when interviewed in 1938 and 1953, exhibited an outward cooperative attitude. He was investigated briefly by the Bureau in 1946 in connection with general criminal activities in the Los Angeles area and on a possible White Slave violation arising out of his affair with a nineteen-year old starlet. Investigation was discontinued when no prosecutive evidence was developed. Files of the Identification Division do not show an arrest record for Raft.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Wick
1 - Mr. Casper
1 - Mr. Rosen

REC-75

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - 
1 - 

11 APR 14 1967

CONTINUED - OVER

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

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ENCLOSURE

62 APR 18 1967

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: George Raft

Raft has been the object of much adverse publicity because of his hoodlum associates, since becoming a movie star. Some of this publicity included a high stakes crooked dice game in the apartment of Brooklyn Dodgers baseball manager Leo Durocher; testimony in behalf of Siegel on a bookmaking charge; his association with Siegel prior to Siegel's murder; other friends mentioned in newspaper articles concerned Raft's association with Charles "Lucky" Luciano and Allen Smiley, California bookmaker; his difficulty in obtaining State of Nevada approval to be a shareholder in the Flamingo Hotel, a Las Vegas casino; and his interceding with the Beverly Hills, California, Police Department to obtain the release of John Capone, brother of former underworld king, Al Capone.

Raft, when interviewed by a daily Miami, Florida, newspaper on January 9, 1959, admitted he was a greeter and hand-shaker at the Capri Hotel, a casino in Havana, Cuba, prior to its being closed by Fidel Castro.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: George Raft

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED]

On March 14, 1967, Senator George Murphy, Republican, California, telephonically contacted the Bureau stating he had been requested by Raft to intercede for him with someone in the FBI so that he could come to the FBI headquarters and take a look at any file the FBI may have on him. The Senator refused but told Raft he would attempt to set up an appointment so that Raft could make a statement if he so desired. Senator Murphy was advised we would take down any statement Raft may wish to make for the record but no information from our files would be furnished. Senator Murphy stated he would contact the Bureau at a later date if Raft desired an appointment.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

~~2~~ [REDACTED] b7c [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Around the Nation

Judge Abolishes Board Set Up To Hear Complaints on Police

PHILADELPHIA, March 30—The Nation's first police advisory board, a civilian panel established to hear complaints against policemen, has been abolished by a judge as illegal.

Judge Leo Weinrott, ruling on a suit brought two years ago by the Fraternal Order of Police, said Wednesday that the board's action "invade and conflict with the powers and duties of the Police Department" under the city's home rule charter. He noted that the Police Department had its own police board of inquiry to handle disciplinary matters.

Weinrott said the Fraternal Order of Police had presented ample evidence that the advisory board had sometimes "impaired the morale of policemen" and "hindered them in the performance of their duties."

"The evidence shows in sum that the board's operations constitute an unquestionable menace to law enforcement and hence to the public welfare," the Judge wrote.

The eight-man board was established in 1958 to hear citizens' complaints against policemen and made recommendations for appropriate action to the Mayor and Police Commissioner.

Speck Jury Filled

PEORIA, Ill.—Prosecution and defense attorneys completed the selection of a jury and two alternate jurors in the trial of Richard Speck on charges of murdering eight young girls in Chicago.

Judge Herbert C. Paschen, presiding, presided at the completion of the jury after

six tedious weeks, announced that the jurors would be sworn in Monday and the two sides would then present opening statements.

Under stringent guidelines for news coverage laid down by Paschen, the names of the jurors cannot be divulged until they are formally seated Monday.

Addenda

• A Little Rock judge released two jailed newsmen after they disclosed to him, in a closed session, the names of Arkansas legislators who told them of bribery attempts in connection with a proposed gambling law, since vetoed.

• Actor George Raft said he was going to try to see FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to see "who put the finger on me"; Raft was recently banned from Great

Britain, where he had been involved in operating a gambling casino.



RICHARD SPECK
... Jury completed

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DATE 1/25/95 BY 9145 c/fp

The Washington Post Times Herald **A9**
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
World Journal Tribune (New York) _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date **MAR 31 1967**

ENCLOSURE

62-99407-16

18 APR 14 1967

1. Let me have summary on Raft.

2. [Redacted]

b7D
REC-75

friends to
DeLoach
3-31-67

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

[Redacted]

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 30 1967

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI LOS ANG.

12:36 PM URGENT 3-30-67 CJS

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LOS ANGELES (62-3224)

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DATE 1/25/85 BY 9445 cjp

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. DeLoach ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Wick ✓
Mr. Casper ✓
Mr. Callahan ✓
Mr. Conrad ✓
Mr. Felt ✓
Mr. Gale ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Sullivan ✓
Mr. Tavel ✓
Mr. Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

GEORGE RAFT, INFORMATION CONCERNING.

LOS ANGELES AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER HERALD EXAMINER
OF THIS DATE REFLECTS AN INTERVIEW BY REPORTER WITH GEORGE
RAFT, FORMER ACTOR WHO RECENTLY WAS BARRED FROM ENGLAND
AS AN UNDESIRABLE. RAFT IS QUOTED AS SAYING AMONG OTHER
THINGS, "THE ONLY THING I CAN FIGURE IS THAT IT WAS THE FBI.
AND SO I'M GOING TO TRY TO SEE J. EDGAR HOOVER AND FIND OUT
WHAT THEY HAVE GOT AGAINST ME... I SUPPOSE THE BRITISH HAD
SOME INFORMATION ON ME AND IT MUST HAVE COME FROM THE FBI.
I'M GOING TO NEW YORK THIS WEEK TO SEE ABOUT A JOB AND
PLAN TO DROP DOWN TO WASHINGTON AND WAIT IN HOOVER'S OFFICE
UNTIL HE SEES ME. I KNOW HIM. I INTRODUCED HIM TO ALY
KHAN AT THE MAR RACE TRACK..."

ARTICLE CLIPPED AND FORWARDED TO BUREAU THIS DATE. FOR

INFORMATION.

END

62 APR 18 1967

FBI WASH DC
CC: MR. GALE

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

EDWIN R. TULLY

March 29, 1967

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-25-85 BY 9445 a/pw

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On March 29, 1967, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] visited the
Baltimore Office and advised me of the follow-
ing information:

[REDACTED] Raft is very upset about
being banned from the gambling casino with which
he was affiliated in England. Raft asked [REDACTED]
contact [REDACTED] would
suggest to you that you write a letter stating
there is nothing in FBI files to suggest that
Raft is or was involved in any illegal activities.
[REDACTED] knows you would not do such a
thing, but he was wondering if you would consider
advising the Chief of Police in Beverly Hills,
California, that there is nothing in FBI files
to link Raft with illegal activity - presuming
this is true. [REDACTED] continued, the Chief
of Police in Beverly Hills could furnish a letter
saying as far as he knows Raft is not a gangster
and not involved in illegal activity. The Chief
of Police in Beverly Hills would not mention the
FBI, but presumably would feel safe in making such
a statement, having been assured that FBI files
had no information to suggest Raft was involved
in illegal activities.

Mr. Tolson	/
Mr. DeLoach	/
Mr. Mohr	/
Mr. Wick	/
Mr. Casper	/
Mr. Callahan	/
Mr. Conrad	/
Mr. Felt	/
Mr. Gale	/
Mr. Rosen	/
Mr. Sullivan	/
Mr. Tavel	/
Mr. Trotter	/
Tele. Room	/
Miss Holmes	/
Miss Gandy	/

APR 14 1967

62-99407
NOT RECORDED
113 APR 14 1967

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
March 29, 1967

I told [redacted] that I could not speak for you, but I know Bureau policy is against any "clearances" or similar statements for anyone, and further, information in FBI files is confidential. [redacted] thought that probably would be the answer, and I assured him I would bring this matter to your personal attention. I told [redacted] I would be in touch with him later on if any other clarification was necessary. b7c

[redacted] appeared to be contemplating contacting you directly on this matter, but I feel now he is content with the observation that I would bring it to your personal attention. b7c

*I will make
no such statement
to anyone about this.
H*

Sincerely,

Edwin R. Tully

Edwin R. Tully
Special Agent in Charge
Baltimore Division

March 31, 1967

62-99407

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-26-85 BY 9005

Mr. Edwin R. Tully
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Tully:

I have your letter of March 29th concerning the request of [redacted] for me to make a statement regarding George Raft. b7c

I will make no such statement to anyone about Raft, and you may feel free to so inform [redacted] I do appreciate, however, your bringing this information to my attention. b7c

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 19
MAR 31 1967
COMM-FBI

NOTE:

[redacted] are both known to the Director on a first-name basis.

[redacted] (3)

[redacted] b7c

373
29 APR 18 1967

6-58

ORIGINAL FILED IN 70

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/85 BY 9454/20

April 6, 1967

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Edgar:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the letter I have just written Mr. Tully as by the tone of his letter I felt that you might be upset with me for making a request of your Department; that if there was any criminal record on the books could a statement be made either through Chief Anderson of the Beverly Hills California Police Department or the Los Angeles Police Department to George Raft to assist him in securing entrance again to England.

Evidently it has been very hard for him to secure employment in the United States, and being out of work he is using every means available to try and get back on the payroll in the foreign country.

I went to Mr. Tully rather than coming directly to you as first of all, I knew the Department could not give out letters of recommendation; and secondly, not having seen George Raft in fifteen or eighteen years, I had no idea whether he had any kind of a record or not and did not want to put you on the spot.

Hope to see you at our yearly meeting at the Preakness and please remember me to Clyde.

Sincerely,

ENCLOSURE

Encl.

REC-82

62-99407-18

18 APR 14 1967

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

8-6550

April 6, 1967

Edwin R. Tully
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
408 Post Office Building
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/80 BY 9445/ajp

Dear Mr. Tully:

I wish to thank you for bringing the matter of George Raft to Mr. Hoover's attention and as you and I discussed, I felt that his feelings would be exactly as you explained in your letter to me. b7c

As I explained to you, this request was made by [REDACTED]

I sincerely hope that at the time you discussed this matter with Mr. Hoover, you explained to him what my feelings were and how I came to you rather than embarrass him by coming directly to his office as I would not want to do anything to upset my long friendship and association with the Director.

I hope to see you in the near future, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7c

D.c. Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

67 99407-18
ENCLOSURE

April 11, 1967

REC-82

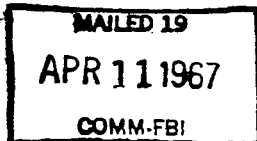
62-99407-18

Dear [REDACTED] b7c

I have received your letter of April 6th together with its enclosure and remembered you to Clyde [REDACTED] as you requested. You may be certain I appreciate your furnishing me your comments on the matter you mentioned, and I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Edgar



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/85 BY 945 cjp

2 - Baltimore - Enclosures (2)
PERSONAL ATTENTION SAC:
1 - Los Angeles - Enclosures (2)
PERSONAL ATTENTION SAC:

NOTE: Reference material available in Crime Records Division discloses correspondent is known to the Director on a first-name basis.

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

APR 11 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2 MAY 22 1967

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-99407-18

GEORGE RAFT
1275 BEVERLY ESTATES DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

March 28, 1967

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145ci/pw

Mr. John Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to you as a last resort.

No doubt you have heard the story about my being barred from coming into England. All the letters that I have received from my solicitor in England all indicate that the crux of my problem stems from the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States having informed the English government, or their agency, of my affiliation with gangsters. I have never been known to be affiliated with any gangsters, and there are no records to show any tie-up with me and any gangster elements.

It is true that, being in the entertainment world for forty years, you are bound to be associated by friendship with all kinds of characters from all walks of life. But this happens to all entertainers, especially entertainers such as myself who have played in pictures and worked in cafes during the Prohibition days.

I have all my personal belongings stored in England.

I would be most grateful if I could come to Washington and discuss with your Federal Bureau of Investigation anything that they may feel makes me an undesirable through association. I have always known for many years what an honorable and fair person you have been. I am sure you would like to help me and see that I

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

6-1-67

APR 9 1967

ENCLOSURE

Mr. J. N. X. to [unclear]
4-5-67

Memo [unclear]
4-4-67

REC-54 62-99407-19
10 APR 9 1967

CORRESPONDENCE

GEORGE RAFT
1275 BEVERLY ESTATES DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

Mr. John Edgar Hoover

-2-

March 28, 1967

I could get justice and have a fair hearing in England. I would appreciate you advising me as to what would be the proper procedure for me to take to get my name cleared to enable me to get back into England.

I realize you are awfully busy and have many important duties without worrying about me. But a lot of our mutual friends told me to write to you direct, that you are never too busy to help a person if it is honorable. I sincerely in my heart feel that I am as honorable a citizen as any person can be in the United States.

In fact, the Friars Club of Los Angeles is paying honor to me with a testimonial dinner on Tuesday evening, June 13. I hope if you are on the West Coast you will do me the honor of attending. The biggest names in show business are going to pay me homage.

When answering this letter, please send it to my home address as listed above.

Sincerely yours,


George Raft

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
Mr. DeLoach ☒
Mr. Mohr ☒
Mr. Casper ☒
Mr. Callahan ☒
Mr. Conrad ☒
Mr. Felt ☒
Mr. Gale ☒
Mr. Sullivan ☒
Mr. Tavel ☒
Mr. Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

TO : Mr. DeLoach *10*

DATE: April 4, 1967

FROM : J. H. Gale

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE *1/25/85* BY *9450jfw*

[Large blacked-out redacted area]

Raft has received considerable publicity concerning his being barred from Great Britain and newspaper authorities have quoted him as stating he would attempt to see the Director to determine if the FBI had caused his problem with the British Government. On March 14, 1967, he attempted to obtain permission to review his file at the FBI through Senator George Murphy (Republican - California). Senator Murphy stated he realized Raft could not review Bureau records but stated he would attempt to make an appointment with Bureau officials if Raft desired to make a statement. Senator Murphy was advised we would take down any statement Raft wished to make concerning this matter. *D.C.*

The attached letter to the Director from Raft attempts to explain away his hoodlum associates as characters he met while being an entertainer. He requested the Director's assistance in determining why the British Government issued an order barring him from that country. *REC 55 62-99407-19*

ACTION:

2 EXCLOS Attached for the Director's approval is a letter to Raft acknowledging receipt of his letter and pointing out that Bureau has no control over actions of a foreign government and that we would accept any statement he may care to make for the record concerning this matter. *14 APR 25 1967*

- Enc. *sent 4-67*
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 - 1 - Mr. Wick *b7c*
 - 1 - Mr. Gale

APR 25 1967
FOR MR. TOLSON

(6) 5 APR 27 1967

Memo DeLoach 4-5-67 sent Legal Admin 4-6-67

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7 D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99407-19(4-4-67) enclosure

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

TELETYPE UNIT
APR 21 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. DeLoach ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Mr. Wick ✓
Mr. Casper ✓
Mr. Callahan ✓
Mr. Conrad ✓
Mr. Felt ✓
Mr. Gale ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Sullivan ✓
Mr. Tavel ✓
Mr. Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

FBI WASH DC --3--

URGENT 5:55 PM 4-21-67 ADE

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LOS ANGELES 62-3224

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-25-85 BY 9145 cjp/

GEORGE RAFT. INFORMATION CONCERNING.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BUREAU REQUESTED TO FURNISH INSTRUCTIONS.

END

EFH

FBI WASH DC

ENCLOSURE

I have never met [REDACTED]

ice dad

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

CC: MR. GALE

62-99407-20

APR 26 1967

*airtel to A
4-25-67*

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

April 22, 1967

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

Raft previously expressed desire to see Director after his expulsion from England because of his alleged association and fronting for American hoodlums in London casinos. He was advised that Director could not see him and that expulsion was matter of British Government over which we have no control. Special Investigative Division recommends advising Los Angeles background of Raft's request indicating Bureau can be of no assistance to Raft.

AAS

[REDACTED] *Yes.* [REDACTED] *b7c* [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-25-85 BY 9445 a/cw

62-99407-20

ENCLOSURE

4/25/67

Airtel

To: SAC, Los Angeles (62-3224)

REC 60

From: Director, FBI 62-99407-80

GEORGE RAFT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

EX-113

Re Los Angeles teletype to Bureau 4/21/67.

[REDACTED]

b2 b7D

[REDACTED]

Raft has attempted to review his file at the FBI through Senator George Murphy (Republican - California) and requested Walter Winchell to make inquiry of the Director as to why he was barred from England. The Director has stated he will not see Raft.

[REDACTED]

b7D

MAILED 22
APR 25 1967
COMM-FBI

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

1 - 162-1-241

(5)

79 APR 27 1967


MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-25-85 BY 9415 aif/er

162-1-241-
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Airtel to Los Angeles
Re: George Raft

In answer to a letter to the Director concerning possible reasons as to why he was barred from England, Raft was advised by letter from the Director dated April 4, 1967, that the FBI had no jurisdiction in England and no control over action taken by that Government. The Director stated in his letter that in the event Raft desired to submit additional data, it would be made a matter of permanent record upon receipt at the Bureau.



bv
b7D

April 27, 1967

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Wick
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]

b7c
9-1

CC

Mr. George Raft
1275 Beverly Estates Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145 rj/fw

Dear Mr. Raft:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 21, 1967, wherein you seek additional information concerning the actions of the British Government in barring you from the United Kingdom.

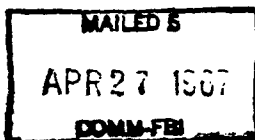
As I indicated in my letter of April 4, 1967, the FBI has no jurisdiction in England and has no control over governmental action taken by a foreign country. Under the circumstances, it will not be possible for me to be of any assistance to you in your current request.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: see cover memorandum J. H. Gale to DeLoach captioned "George Raft, Information Concerning," dated 4-26-67, [REDACTED]



Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

62 MAY 4 1967

RECEIVED DE LOACH

EX-103

APR 28 1967

RECEIVED DATE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET4

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99407-22

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XXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 X DELETED PAGE(S) X
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

①
GEORGE RAFT
 1275 SEVERLY ESTATES DRIVE
 BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145 c/pw
 April 21, 1967

Mr. John Edgar Hoover
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 U.S. Department of Justice
 Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received your letter of April 4th in reply to my
 letter of March 28th. I appreciate your time in
 giving me this reply.

I wish to supplement my letter with additional data by
 advising you that I have been informed by my solicitor
 in London that he had received information from
 reliable sources that two United States Department of
 Justice representatives have supplied the Home
 Secretary with information in regard to George Raft.

My solicitor was informed that a dossier was given the
 United States Ambassador in London via the FBI and
 then transferred to the Home Secretary. My solicitor
 informs me that Questions have been asked from the
 House of Commons by several M.P.'s and the only reply
 the Home Secretary would make was that he had enough
 information from the United States. He remained
 adamant, not replying or giving out any further
 information to the newspapers in London or my solicitor.

I would appreciate hearing from you, and I know that
 you know what is going on in your office from every
 source, if the FBI did supply a dossier on me to the
 United States Ambassador in London. I do not believe
 that the United States could supply an honest dossier
 on me that would do anything detrimental to my
 character because I do not have any record to
 substantiate a country like England taking action

EXP. PROC.

APR 24 1967

62 - 99407-23

5-2

APR 24 1967

226
 51 MAY 8 1967

CORRESPONDENCE

GEORGE RAFT
1279 BEVERLY ESTATES DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

Mr. John Edgar Hoover

-2-

April 21, 1967

against me.

I would appreciate a reply if possible on this request,
as you indicated you would be glad to do in your letter
of the 4th.

I wish to take this time to thank you. I sincerely hope
that you have lots of good health and the best of
everything for the future.

Sincerely yours,


George Raft

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: April 26, 1967

FROM : J. H. Gale

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT

INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145 ci/gw

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

[REDACTED] Raft has made numerous attempts to determine why he was barred and whether or not the FBI had any responsibility in the action taken by the British Government.

Raft wrote the Director on March 28, 1967, attempting to explain away his association with notorious hoodlums and requesting the Director to help in determining why he was barred from England. By letter of April 4, 1967, the Director pointed out to Raft that the FBI had no jurisdiction in England and had no control over Governmental action taken by a foreign country.

Raft again directed a letter to the Director on April 21, 1967, in which he stated his solicitor in London had learned the United States Ambassador in London was furnished a dossier on Raft by the FBI and the Ambassador had, in turn, furnished this dossier to the British Home Secretary. Raft stated he would like to know whether or not the FBI did furnish the United States Ambassador in London with such a dossier.

Enc. part 4-27-EX108

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Gale

REC-8 1

15 MAY 2 1967

51 MP (6) 226

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: George Raft

Raft, in his latest letter, indicated that the British Home Secretary, while being questioned in Parliament regarding the barring of United States hoodlums from England stated that the information regarding Raft's hoodlum associates was received from the United States.

[REDACTED] b7D

Legal Attache, London, stated United States Ambassador in London did not receive a dossier or any other information on Raft. When casually questioned concerning his information on Raft, the Ambassador stated "He did not even know Raft was in England until the papers reported he was kicked out."

It is possible that Raft's solicitor in London is furnishing Raft fallacious information in order to earn his fee and to convince Raft his difficulties are attributable to the FBI, when actually they are with the British Government.

ACTION:

If approved, the attached letter will be directed to Raft, reiterating the Director's statements that the FBI has no jurisdiction in England and we can be of no assistance to him in this matter.

OK. ✓ [REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED]

14

CODE

4-25-67

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

TO LEGAT LONDON

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

GEORGE RAFT, MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/25/85 BY 9145a/cw

BUREAU IN RECEIPT OF LETTER FROM RAFT IN WHICH HE ADVISES
HIS LONDON SOLICITOR HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT TWO U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVES SUPPLIED HOME SECRETARY
WITH INFORMATION RE RAFT. ALSO THAT A BOSSIER ON RAFT WAS GIVEN
THE U.S. AMBASSADOR LONDON BY BUREAU AND THEN TRANSFERRED TO HOME
SECRETARY; THAT WHEN QUESTIONED BY MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF COMMONS
HOME SECRETARY REFUSED TO GIVE SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON RAFT OTHER
THAN INDICATING IT CAME FROM U.S.

[REDACTED]

Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)

1 - [REDACTED] (detached)

NOTE: Raft by letter dated 4-21-67 indicated information reported
above. Reply from Legat necessary in order that consideration can
be given to acknowledgment of Raft's letter.

Wick _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

226

57 MAY 8 1967

TELETYPE UNIT

NR	68
ENCL	[REDACTED]
APPROVED BY	[REDACTED]
TYPED BY	[REDACTED]

VIA CABLEGRAM
APR 25 1967
945M/12

nc

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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WASH FROM 1964

7-20 PM

b7c

DISCLOSURE

RECEIVED LETTER JULY TWENTY

REFERRED TO THIS OFFICE INSTANT DATE, REGARDING ELX [REDACTED]

DOLLARS AND SOME [REDACTED] YOU WOULD HARDLY REMEMBER THE
OR WHEN AND ALSO YOU MIGHT [REDACTED] IT INTO MY HANDS, ITS A CERTAIN

NEGATIVE ONE I'D WOULD LIKE TO HAVE. YOU WAS UNDER INVESTIGATION

COUPLE TIMES BUT DIDNT GET ANY CLUE IN YOU BUT THE CLUE THEY ARE

LOOKING FOR IN THE [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] YOU WERE

BRUNK. I SUBJECT ADVISED VICTIM TO MAIL MONEY TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LETTER SIGNED YOUR FRIEND [REDACTED]

LAS VEGAS, ALTHOUGH POSTMARK INDICATES LETTER MAILED IN LOS ANGELES

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

9-15529-1

b7c

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 8/14/47

70265

On July 15, 1947, [redacted] furnished this office with his enclosed letter. It is noted that the communication was supposedly sent to Mr. [redacted] although it was addressed to [redacted] in [redacted].

[redacted] and [redacted] advised that neither in nor [redacted] had any idea who sent the letter, nor do they have any suspects in mind. The Bureau was advised of the receipt of this letter by Mr. [redacted] by teletype dated 7/15/47. No action regarding this matter is being taken in the Los Angeles Office and the Bureau is being furnished the Laboratory for inclusion in the [redacted] collection letter. [redacted]

9-0-70
Encs. (1) Registered

RECEIVED

7-15529-2

AUG 19 1947

RECORDED

8-22-47 1:43 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

L-45

Laboratory Work Sheet

b7c

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
GEORGE RAFT - VICTIM
MURDER

File # 7-1557-2
Lab. # 8-70255 RE OT

RECEIVED NO LAB. FILE

Examination requested by: Los Angeles (7-0-729)

Date of reference communication: Letter 8-14-47

Date received: 8-21-47

Examination requested: Document

Result of Examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]

OK to file
as enclosure

b7c

Specimens submitted for examination

- Q1 One white envelope bearing address handwritten in ink "George Raft
1718 Calender Canyon Highway Calif", postmarked "LOS ANGELES CALIF.
JUL 19 1947 6:38 PM", return address on flap of envelope [REDACTED]
- Q2 Accompanying letter handwritten in ink on a sheet of white ruled paper,
message beginning "Will be my first address [REDACTED]"
[REDACTED] Dear George Tell George did you [REDACTED]

AUG 26 1947
8453

890078 1947

b7c

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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9-15529-2 (821-47) enclosure

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RECORDED -
8-22-47 1:45 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

b7c

Re: **EDWARD GUYNET**
GEORGE RAFT - VICTIM
EXTORTION

File # 9-15529-2
Lab # D-70265 SE CT

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ NO LAB. FILE

Examination requested by: Los Angeles (9-0-749)

Date of reference communication: Letter 8-14-47

Date received: 8-21-47

Examination requested: Document

Result of Examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED]

No ident A.L.F. - Photo added
No report being submitted
Evidence attached as enclosure
b7c

OK to file
Specimens submitted for examination [REDACTED]

Q1 One white envelope bearing address handwritten in ink "George Raft
1218 Calumet Canyon Highway Calif", postmarked "LOS ANGELES CALIF.
JUL 19 1947 6:30 PM", return address on flap of envelope [REDACTED]

Q2 Accompanying letter handwritten in ink on a sheet of white ruled paper,
message beginning "mail to my friend address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dear George Well George did you"

Searched 3 E 1/16 A.L.F. no ident - 9/29/47 [REDACTED]

OK to file
[REDACTED]

b7c

SAC, Los Angeles

September 25, 1947

Director, FBI

REGISTERED MAIL
WITH RECEIPT REQUESTED

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
SECURE RAFT - VICTIM
EXTORTION

Reurlet July 26, 1947, and letter August 14, 1947.

In referenced tel-type you indicated that this matter was to be referred to the postal authorities, inasmuch as there did not appear to be any violation within the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau. In your communication of August 14, 1947, you enclosed the original letter received by the victim indicating that this matter has not been referred by your office to the postal authorities.

The Bureau is returning to you the original communication addressed to the victim, and you should advise the Bureau whether or not this matter was referred to the postal authorities, and if not why it was not so referred as you indicated would be done in your teletype of July 26, 1947.

b7c

[REDACTED]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 12 1947
FBI - LOS ANGELES


OCT 8 1947

Mail to registered address

C
P
I
 b7c

Dear George

Well George did you recieved my letter? & do you remember or still can't remember? You know anyway this was in Hollywd during night can't tell where or when, this is up to you to remember, anyway its some sort of photo even you could hardly remember how or when, & also you didn't know how it got into my hands, its a certain negative which FBI would like to have. You was under investigation couple times but didn't get any clue on you, but the alme they are looking for is in my hands, - not only negative, but some sort of other things too. Maybe you was drunk or etc didn't know anything, if I mention where & when & with whom, you would be more excited but won't mention it cause this evidence is too strong, & you will be glad to have in your hands to read all. Well my friends told me he didn't recieved your answer yet. You know he don't know anything about this, if he tell or phone to me again in Las Vegas I am going to mail this envelope to the FBI. & so thinkit oer either you buy this or jail to you & I know what you are thinking now, (what evidence & what kind,) well don't think & you will soon know your memory if you see it. I will mail it to you if my friend recieved your \$6 grand or more, not less. Then you can have it & destroy yourself Well Ill be seen you think it oer? Your friend in Las Vegas Maybe I might ask for more soon I hope, cause this cost more than your life to you when you have it.

(Envelope handwritten, addressed to "George Raft 1218 Coldwater Canyon
Hollywd Calif", postmarked "LOS ANGELES CALIF. JUN 19 1947 6:30 PM",
return address on flap of envelope ) b7c

ENCLOSURE
7-1-5

7-1-5

Office Memorandum for the United States Government

DATE: October 21, 1947

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated September 29, 1947. Although instructions by Bureau of August 14, 1947 failed to indicate that the anonymous letter received by the victim had not been referred to the postal authorities in Los Angeles, and [REDACTED] of that office stated that in view of the fact the necessary [REDACTED] should be conducted to constitute a violation of postal regulations, their office had not [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] however, stated that further letters addressed to the victim, if any, be shown to him for an opinion relative to violation of postal regulations.

In view of the fact that no further investigation is to be conducted in this matter, the anonymous communication is being enclosed herewith for inclusion in the temporary extortion letter file.

100-70

Enclosure

Registered

RECORDED

19-15529-31-17

60 NOV 1 1947

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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9-15529-3 (10-21-47) enclosure

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U. S. Probe On George Raft Funds

A secret F. B. I. inquiry into the finances of George Raft, film star, reportedly earned at revenues of \$250,000 in his career, was revealed in a New York report today, the New York Journal American stated.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Joseph



GEORGE RAFT
F. B. I. Secret Inquiry Into
Finances of Film Star

C. Kenney of New York asked and received permission from Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter to photo-copy affidavits in the 1934 separation suit filed against the movie idol by Mrs. Grayer Mulrooney Raft, according to the newspaper which added:

"Mrs. Raft at that time alleged her husband was earning upwards of \$250,000 a year."

The newspaper added:

"Kenney stated copies would be sent to the Department of Justice in Washington, for use in evidence in Federal Court. What type of action, civil or otherwise, was under preparation could not be learned."

"In her 1934 suit, which Mrs. Raft later withdrew, she demanded \$250,000 with attorney's fees of \$25 to \$50 each, by the claimant to have been an

"Mrs. Raft also cited Raft's association with beneficial owners of the stage, screen and society, and asserted this was infamous treatment that caused her mental anguish."

"Married in 1923 in Pennsylvania, the Rafts had no rift until success came to him, when columnists began reporting his infidelity for other women."

"His name has been linked with those of Norma Sharrer, Marjorie Dietrich and Betty Grable."

"The government's affidavit, on which Justice Frankfurter today was asked to act, asserted the last name allegedly was awarded \$250,000."

7-24-42

5-182-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 25 1942	
LOS ANGELES	

CH-24

DEC 17 1942

[Handwritten: Rosen]
New York, N.Y.
November 17, 1944. *b7c*

Mr. Hoover:

You have no doubt read news articles recently which reflect that George Raft, the movie actor, was alleged to have been involved in a crooked crap game at the Sherry Netherland Hotel or at the apartment of Leo Brooker, the Brooklyn baseball manager.

As information has come to me from time to time indicating that George Raft had connections with the gangster element in New York, I thought it would be of interest to you to receive information which was readily available in the files of the office and through contacts of the office. Some rather illuminating information is set forth in a memorandum of Special Agent *[redacted]* of even date which I have had him prepare and which is attached hereto.

CP 242,152
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/2/85 BY 91450/10
Attachment

[Handwritten: CONROY]
[Handwritten: 65-54233-1]
RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-21
DEC 8 1944
NOV 29 1944

+7

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW YORK, N.Y.

November 17, 1944

CH 242/52

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6/7/85 BY 91452/ew

MEMORANDUM:

RE: GEORGE RAFT

The most recent information concerning GEORGE RAFT's criminal connections arose with reference to VITO GENOVESE. Prior to 1934, GENOVESE had been the leader of an Italian gang on the Lower West Side of New York City, which is now headed by TONY BENDER. At the time of the investigation into the activities of CHARLES "LUCKY" LUCIANO, who was convicted on a compulsory prostitution charge, the "heat" was on all the racketeers in New York City. This was the reason for the departure from the United States of GENOVESE in 1934, at which time he returned to Italy. GENOVESE is able to speak at least three languages. It was recently learned that while in Italy on a USO Camp Shows Tour, GEORGE RAFT arranged for the employment of GENOVESE by the Allied Military Government in Italy.

[REDACTED]

b7D

u-6-1

The writer recalls that in approximately 1937, while in Little Rock, Arkansas, he received information that GEORGE RAFT was the guest of OWNEY MADDEN at Hot Springs, Arkansas, for at least two weeks during that summer. During the course of RAFT's visit to Arkansas, the writer observed him at a baseball game in Little Rock one Sunday, at which time RAFT was accompanied by [REDACTED] OWNEY MADDEN was one of the most prominent racketeers in New York City during the Prohibition era. [REDACTED]

b7C



65-54233-1

ENCLOSURE

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 1944

[REDACTED] and is allegedly living a respectable life at the present time. b7c

RAFT was interviewed by Agents of the Bureau in 1938 in connection with the investigation looking to the location of LOUIS "LEPKE" BUCHALTER. At that time RAFT admitted association with BENJAMIN "BUGSY" SIEGEL, who was a member of the "Big 6," a group of leaders of gangs in New York City during the late Prohibition era.

He also admitted knowing of [REDACTED], a close associate of BUCHALTER and JACOB SHAPIRO. RAFT at this time stated that when he arrived in California in 1927, he was picked up by the authorities due to his past connections in the cafe business in New York, but that after a short time they discontinued bethering him. b7c

[REDACTED], Paramount Pictures Inc., stated that, according to his understanding, before RAFT became a movie star he was a collector of beer money in New York when Prohibition was in effect. b7c b7D

GARY COOPER, the movie actor, was interviewed at this time also, and he advised RAFT was an individual who was somewhat unable to keep pace with the salary he was receiving, and that RAFT had a distorted sense of loyalty to his old New York associates, who were not always of the best type.

In 1939 HARRY "CHAMP" SEGAL, a former New York City racketeer, advised he had associated with GEORGE RAFT in Hollywood.

At the time of the BUCHALTER investigation, information was also received that RAFT had induced one [REDACTED] to come to Hollywood from New York City. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 1944

It is also interesting to note that when "BUGS" SIEGEL was the subject of prosecutive action in Los Angeles in connection with Murder Incorporated, the District Attorney's Office in Los Angeles interviewed GEORGE RAFT because they found checks from RAFT in SIEGEL's possession. A statement has been made that RAFT willingly lends money to hoodlum friends of his.

Special Agent

Mr. Hoover

December 1, 1941

If you will recall, news articles at that time absolved Durocher who is presently overseas with the U.S.O. of any blame in connection with the incident.

If you will recall, news articles at that time absolved Durocher who is presently overseas with the U.S.O. of any blame in connection with the incident.

ברך

d

676

078

RECORDED

INDEXED

356 67 DEC 28 1944

65-54233-2

It is understood that Raft is in need of funds and that he has not acted in the movies for the past three years. During that period he has apparently been replaced by Humphrey Bogart in the "bad man" roles.

You may have noted in recent newspaper articles that Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegal, one-time member of a Brooklyn murder mob, and gambler Allen Smiley, recently were charged with book-making in Los Angeles and each paid a \$250 fine, received 180 day suspended sentences, and were placed on probation despite the fact that George Raft came to their defense.

During Prohibition, "Bugsy" Siegel was one of New York's "Big Six" engaged in bootlegging. Frank Costello was another member of that group.

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] b7c

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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65-54233-2 pg3

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Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 17, 1946

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

65-242,152

SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6/2/85 BY 2/15/85

With further reference to my teletype of December 16, 1946, I am enclosing clippings from Los Angeles papers concerning the suit against GEORGE RAFT which has been instituted by EDWARD CAIDEN, a Los Angeles attorney.

Encs.

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX - 8

165-54233

37 DEC 28 1946

EX - 8 56 JAN 2 1947

b7c

George Raft, the slick-haired movie prototype of New York wise guys, today was sued for \$300,000 by an attorney for a pretty 19-year-old movie actress who charged Raft with getting back "love gifts" he had given her by trickery and strong-arm methods.

Edward Raiden, Los Angeles attorney, filed the suit in Superior Court here through Attorney Marion P. Betty, charging he was "ganged up" by Raft's henchmen when he sought to recover jewelry and other gifts the film actor asserted he had given actress Betty Doss.

Raiden asserted that on Dec. 14, 1945, Raft, through his agent, Ben Platt, "by trick and device" took from the possession of Miss Doss, a young movie hopeful, personal property which belonged to her and Miss Doss, five days later, retained Raiden to recover the alleged love gifts.

TELLS OF THREATS

When Raiden telephoned Raft and his bodyguard, Mack "Killer" Gray, asking the film star to give the girl back her property, the attorney alleged the defendant threatened both Miss Doss, her mother and himself.

One day later Gray and Platt appeared at Raiden's office, the attorney alleged, and told him Miss Doss had settled her claim against Raft and then threatened Raiden to compel him to drop the suit, offering to pay his legal fees.

The next day the girl told Raiden, the attorney continued, that Raft refused to give her back her asserted "love gifts" and demanded that she leave the state so she could not be a witness against him.

Raft told her, Miss Doss said, that he would give her the gifts back only by sending one piece at a time providing that he felt "she was acting white toward him."

GIRL PRESSES CHARGE

Nevertheless, the young movie actress told her attorney she wanted to press her claim against Raft and the others to get back her property and she also wanted him to bring suit against Raft and Gray for slander and to restrain them from smashing her screen career and forcing her to leave the state.

Attorney Raiden related he called at the apartment of Miss Doss and her mother the same evening and that George Raft appeared there trying to force Raiden to drop the suit and compel Betty to get out of the state. Then, he threatened she

C#242,152
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/85 BY 9145 ci/fw

LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS
DATED 12-13-46

-1-
ENCLOSURE 65-54222-2

George Raft Named in Suit Over Love Gifts

→ FROM PAGE ONE

with Raft, Joe Gray, brother of Mack Gray suddenly opened the door to the apartment, pinned Raiden's arms from behind, and while he held the attorney, Raft beat Raiden and then "kicked the attorney in the groin and stomach with his knee."

PUT ON TRAIN, PLEA

Raft then threatened, according to the suit, that he was going to see that Miss Doss had to leave California, "the complaint alleged."

Further seeking to prevent Betty and her attorney from prosecuting the case in court, Raft and "Killer" Gray, his bodyguard, "compelled and coerced" the girl to go to the office of Raft's attorney a day later, where she and her mother signed a letter discharging Raiden as her attorney and then Raft and Gray assertedly took Betty to a train and "saw to it that she left the state."

For being beaten up and reduced to a nervous case, Attorney Raiden demanded \$50,000 damages, claiming he has since been unable to concentrate on his work.

And because Raft and his henchmen allegedly sought to obstruct justice and prevent Betty getting a fair hearing of her claim, the attorney demanded \$250,000 more. Following the filing of the suit

"Killer" Gray, speaking for Raft and commenting on the action said:

"The whole thing is ridiculous. This matter has been settled a long time ago."

Gray denied that Miss Doss had been asked to leave the state.

"STILL FRIENDS"

Mrs. Daisy Doss, attractive mother of the young actress, revealed today that Miss Doss now has all of the gifts which were involved in the altercation.

"I sent my daughter away for eight months after that happened and Mr. Raft returned all the gifts to her while she was away," she said. "He claimed not to have known anything about them having been taken away from her and said the persons who took them were acting on their own because they thought she was dating other men."

"Betty still talks to Mr. Raft occasionally—they're still friends."

Mrs. Doss also said that she had been called as a witness in an assault and battery action against Raft about one year ago, as a result of the altercation, but never had testified because she was informed the matter had been settled.

LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS

DATED 12-13-46

-2-

65-54233-3

ENCLOSURE

George Raft accused of gangster brawl in \$300,000 damage suit

Screen toughie George Raft took his real life too seriously, it was charged in a \$300,000 suit yesterday by a Hollywood attorney who said the actor worked him over in true gangster style.

The attorney, Edward Raiden, charged that Raft "dusted him out" while the actor's bodyguard held his arms pinned behind him. Raiden incurred the Raft wrath, he said, because he was representing a 19-year-old film aspirant, Betty Doss, who wanted Raft to return to her the gifts he had given and then taken back.

Raft described Raiden's suit as "silly," and had a lot of backing from Miss Doss herself.

"It's a silly, ridiculous thing," said Raft.

"George is one of the finest gentlemen I ever met," said Miss Doss. "I have no complaint against him and no feud."

"Nobody held Mr. Raiden, nobody hit him," said Raft.

"I never witnessed any fight," said Miss Doss, "and furthermore I never received any presents from him except this charm bracelet that I am still wearing."

"If that's what she says," answered Raiden, "there's fraud somewhere. She witnessed that beating and I can prove it."

"The authorities ought to investigate every phase of this case and prosecute anyone guilty of a crime," he added.

Named as defendants with Raft were his bodyguard Mack Gray, alias "Killer" Gray in the language of the suit, Ben Platt and Gray's brother, Sam.

Raiden accused the defendants of conspiracy to commit assault and battery, actual assault and battery, and conspiracy to

He demanded in the suit, filed in Superior Court, \$50,000 compensatory damages and \$250,000 exemplary and punitive damages.

The attorney's trouble with Raft, one of the screen's top players of mobster roles, began shortly after he was retained by 19-year-old Miss Doss, an aspiring film actress, Dec. 18, 1945, he said.

Miss Doss, a New Orleans beauty, retained Raiden because she claimed Raft through "trick and device" had got back gifts valued at \$6000 which he had once bestowed on her.

Miss Doss did not say what the "trick or device" was.

Raiden said in the complaint that when he notified Raft he was Miss Doss' attorney the actor threatened to have the girl run out of the state.

Miss Doss and her mother, Mrs. Daisy Doss, on Dec. 20 told Raiden they had agreed to drop their case against Raft because he had agreed to give back the presents.

Then the two women found out the next day that Raft had refused to give back the presents and Raiden was called again, the suit set forth.

Raiden said that he called Raft the next day about the matter and was told the gifts would be returned one at a time provided the girl was "acting right" toward Raft.

The attorney said the

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

DATE 12-14-46

3

ENCLOSURE 65-54233-3

George Raft accused in damage suit

(Continued from Page 1)

by Raft occurred on the evening of Dec. 21 when he went to the apartment of Miss Does for a conference with her and her mother.

Raiden alleged that while he was standing with his back toward a door it was opened by Joe Gray who held his arms while Raft proceeded to "assault and batter plaintiff about the face, eyes, nose, neck, arms, head and body with his fist and then kicked plaintiff in the groin and stomach with his knee."

Raft then threatened the plaintiff with further physical violence when he left the house, the suit charged.

Raiden said that the next day the two women discharged him as their attorney and that Raft and Mack Gray took the girl to a train scheduled to leave the state.

The girl said last night that she left town of her own accord to visit an aunt.

"She's probably afraid of him. That's all," answered Raiden. "Raft told me he would never let her get a job in the studio and that he'd make her leave the state if she didn't drop the suit."

Raiden was west coast editor of the Showman's Trade Review, a motion picture trade paper, for three years ending in March 1945. He resigned to resume the practice of law.

Miss Does is now under contract to Eagle-Lion studio and will soon appear in a movie called "Repeat Performance."

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

DATED 12-14-46

ENCLOSURE 65-54232-2

Attorney says actor worked him over while bodyguard pinned arms

Tough guy George Raft was sued for \$300,000 today by a Hollywood attorney who claimed Raft pulled some of his movie rough stuff on him.

Edward Raiden charged Raft worked him over in orthodox film gangster fashion while an accomplice pinned the attorney's arms behind him.

Named as defendants with Raft were his bodyguard Mack Gray, alias "Killer" Gray in the language of the suit; Ben Platt and Gray's brother, Joe.

Raiden accused the defendants of conspiracy to commit assault and battery, actual assault and battery, and conspiracy to obstruct justice.

He demanded in the suit, filed in Superior Court, \$50,000 compensatory damages and \$250,000 exemplary and punitive damages.

The attorney's trouble with Raft, one of the screen's top players of mobster roles, began shortly after he was retained by 19-year-old Betty Doos, an aspiring film actress, Dec. 19, 1935.

Miss Doos retained Raiden because she claimed Raft through "trick and device" had got back gifts valued at \$5000 which he had once bestowed on her.

Raiden said in the complaint that when he notified Raft he was Miss Doos' attorney the actor threatened to have the girl run out of the state.

Miss Doos and her mother on Dec. 20 told Raiden they had agreed to drop their case against Raft because he had agreed to give back the presents.

Then the two women found the next day that Raft had refused to give back the presents and Raiden was called again. The suit set forth.

Raiden said that he called Raft the next day about the matter and was told the gifts would be returned if it was proved he had ever "kissed" the girl.

The attorney said the suiting of Raft occurred on the evening of Dec. 21 when he went to the apartment of Miss Doos.



GEORGE RAFT

Sued for \$300,000

conference with her and her mother.

Raiden alleged that while he was standing with his back toward a door it was opened by Joe Gray who held his arms while Raft proceeded to "assault and battery plaintiff" about the face, eyes, nose, neck, arms, head and body with his fist and then kicked plaintiff in the groin and stomach with his knee.

Raft then threatened the plaintiff with further physical violence when he left the house, the suit charged.

Raiden said that the next day the two women discharged him as their attorney and that Raft and Mack Gray took the girl to a train scheduled to leave the state.

Raiden was next sent after the defendants' trade partners, a motion picture trade paper, the three went sailing in March 1936. He demanded to commit the plaintiff of her. Marion F. Kelly is the attorney in the suit against Raft.

LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

DATED 12-13-46

ENCLOSURE

65-54233-2

Lawyer Suing Raft Claims Letters Prove Girl Case Beating Charge

Says Documents Refute Denials Made by Betty Doss

Attorney Edward Raiden yesterday produced what he contended was documentary proof in a beating allegedly received from George Raft, "tough guy" of the movies.

Raiden is suing Raft for \$300,000 damages.

In refutation of the statement by Betty Doss, film aspirant, that the suit was "ridiculous," Raiden showed a statement he said was signed by the actress in which she described the alleged beating.

To Miss Doss' denial that she had ever retained his services, Raiden produced a retainer he said was signed by both Miss Doss and her mother, Daisy Doss.

SHOWS LETTER—

The letter reads:

"I hereby retain Ed Raiden to act as my attorney in recovering from George Raft or his friends or Mack Gray or Ben Platt gifts which I received from George Raft and which were taken from me December 14, 1945, by Ben Platt. These items were a Persian lamb coat, a Dunhill solid gold cigaret lighter, a charm bracelet, a diamond and ruby mesh ring, a wrist watch and a platinum diamond cross."

A two-page letter written in longhand and signed "Betty Doss" gave a detailed account of the beating Raiden says he received in her apartment at Raft's hands last December 21. It reads:

"I, Betty Doss, was in my apartment, 1782 Orchid avenue, at about 4:30 p. m. with my attorney, Ed Raiden; my mother, Daisy Doss, and my agent, Harry Stein.

"We were consulting about a projected film and action on which I had retained Mr. Raiden to see George Raft.

"There has been negotiations

for the past three days between myself, George Raft, my agent Harry Stein, my attorney Mr. Raiden and one Mack Gray. Our talks had reached the point where I had advised Mr. Raiden to forget any settlement and proceed.

"At 8 p. m. I heard from George Raft that he was on the way over. I called Mr. Raiden and asked him to come over at once. He arrived about 8:30 p. m. and we were in conference when George Raft came in.

IN HIDING—

"Not wanting to talk to George Raft I ran into the bathroom—leaving the light off and the door open. Through the mirror in the bath room I could see Mr. Raft and Mr. Raiden talking.

"Suddenly Mr. Raft got off the arm of the chair on which he had been sitting and walked a few steps toward Mr. Raiden. He grabbed him by the tie and proceeded to punch him—punching him against the wall where I could not see what went on further.

"I then saw Joe Gray walk into the room, grab hold of Mr. Raiden's arm, pulling him into a position where I could again see Joe Gray holding Mr. Raiden while George Raft punched him several times."

HAS CHECK—

While Raft has commented that "I don't know Raiden," the attorney has in his possession what he claims is an original check for \$400 from Raft's attorney, Loyd Wright.

This check, Raiden says, was received by him after the attack in the Doss apartment and constituted "payment in full for my services on behalf of Miss Doss."

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER
DATED 12-15-46

ENCLOSURE

6

65-54235-3

ED RAIDEN

Attorney at Law
Hollywood, California

December 15th, 1945

I hereby authorize Ed Raiden to act as my attorney in recovering from George Raft or his friends or bank or by Ben Platt the gifts which I received from George Raft and which were taken from me on December 14th, 1945 by Ben Platt. These items were: a Foreign Lamb Coat, a Dunhill Solid Gold Cigarette lighter, a Chain Bracelet, a Diamond and Ruby Mesh Ring, a wrist watch, and a platinum diamond brooch.

Betty Doss
Betty Doss, 1787 Orchid Avenue
Hollywood, California.

I further authorize you to commence any actions which you find have developed out of the history of my contact with Feldman-Blum, and the facts which I supplied about my relationship with George Raft.

Betty Doss
Betty Doss

*Approved
we 12/15/45
Mrs. Doss*

DOCUMENTS REVEALED—

Attorney Ed Raiden, suing George Raft for \$300,000, claims this facsimile of a letter (above) as proof film hopeful Betty Doss engaged him to help get back expensive gifts given her by Raft.

The letter is purportedly signed by both Betty Doss and her mother. Below is a facsimile of a \$400 check, which, Raiden says, was given him in payment by Raft's attorney, Lloyd Wright, for services rendered Miss Doss.

LOYD WRIGHT'S LAW OFFICE 1111 N. Hollywood Blvd. Hollywood, California		No. 308
<i>Ed Raiden</i>		LOS ANGELES, CALIF. Dec 16 - 1945
		\$ 400.00

7 LOS ANGELES EXAMINER
DATED 12-15-46

ENCLOSURE

65-54233-

Benny Platt Paints Angelic Picture of Pal, George Raft

"Now wait a minute, you guys, I can't say nothin' unless first I tell the 'Killer' (Mack Gray) you're here!"

With these words Benny Platt, confidant of Actor George Raft, greeted reporters at a surprise meeting yesterday in the manager's office of a hotel at 409 North Crescent drive, Beverly Hills.

Hastily explaining that he was not a resident of that hotel, but refusing to say where he lived, Benny—whose New York origin was lost behind a dazzling Pinto-sainted sports jacket, gay slacks and two-toned shoes—quickly dialed a number.

"Some newspaper guys just came in," he announced over the telephone to a man whom he greeted as "Killer."

"How'd I know how they found me? You know better'n that; I don't punch no bags with reporters."

"The first thing I says to 'em is, 'I gotta call the Killer, 'cause I'm a guy what don't talk behind nobody. What I gotta say, first I tell you I'm gonna say it, see?'"

EXCITED—

The diminutive and excited Benny then became lost in an orgy of negative and positive responses.

"I'm just gonna say George is the swellest guy in the world and he never belted nobody ever—"

A hoarse blast from the other end promptly interrupted Platt. "What I mean to say is," he continued hastily, "he never belted his fellow Raiden." He then quickly hung up the receiver.

Maintaining that he had never seen in Betty Doss' apartment, nor was he ever present at any time when Raft or Killer Gray encountered Raiden, Benny said he was a furrier, with offices at 35 Hill street.

COAT DEAL—

"Then George bought from you the Persian lamb coat he gave Betty Doss?"

"Yes—or—I mean, well, I didn't say I sold that coat," he

quickly checked himself.

"I sell lots of fur coats to millions of guys. Maybe once I sold a coat to George? Maybe it was sable or rabbit? Come down to my wholesale house and I'll give you a coat for your wife."

"What I mean is, I've seen George with lots of dolls, but he's always a perfect gentleman. I don't know nothin' about what he gives 'em, except that he always tips his hat when a lady comes into a room, and in his own house he eats with his coat, even when nobody's there. George's got kindness in his heart and respect for women—even old ones."

BIG HEART—

"You see, I idolize the guy. He's got a heart as big as an apple—as big as the whole world! Actually, I love him, but it's strictly friendship. He'd give you a hand-out if you needed it, but George don't go around beltin' guys. At least, I never seen him do it. He even thanks movie fans who ask him for his autograph."

Platt said he met Raft in New York 20 years ago when "I had a steady job and he was a pug."

"But I ain't ever been his manager or his agent. Charlie Feldman of Feldman-Blum, is his agent. You gotta have a license to be a Hollywood agent," he added.

"As for Betty Doss, this guy Raiden don't know none of the answers. That dame is just a simple, sweet kid trying to get along, and George still wants to see her make the grade. Why, his agent, Charlie Feldman, got her her present job with Eagle-Lion, and she even lives with her own mother! We—I mean—George wouldn't drive no skirt out of any town."

ENCLOSURE

65-54233-3

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. ROSEN
FROM : MR. EDW. A. TAMM
SUBJECT: GEORGE RAFT

DATE: 12-20-46

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Pursuant to a request of [REDACTED] for information concerning George Raft, I advised [REDACTED] that the Bureau had not conducted any investigation of Raft but furnished to her photostatic copies of newspaper articles dealing with Raft's activities, including two columns written by Westbrook Pegler concerning Raft and his background.

KAT:rl

#242,152

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/85 BY 9142 c/f/ew

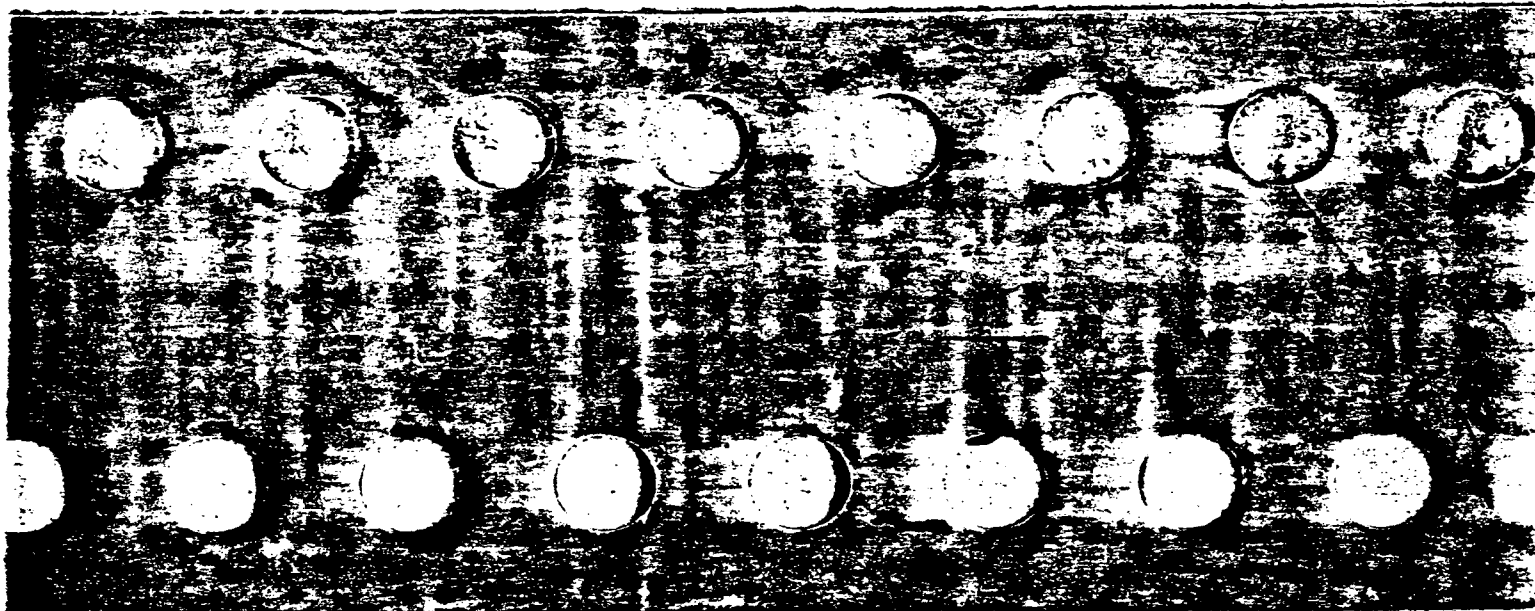
RECORDED & INDEXED
3/2

EX-2

65-54233-4
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29 DEC 27 1948

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50 JAN 9. 1947



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 16 1946

TELEMETER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/7/85 BY 9145 a/l/ea

WASH FROM LOSA 2 16 11-55 AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

GEORGE RAFT, INFORMATION CONCERNING. LOCAL PAPERS CARRYING
STORIES CONCERNING SUIT AGAINST RAFT FILED BY EDWARD RAIDEN,
ATTORNEY, CHARGING ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

LA EXAMINER ADVISED ME HIS PAPER IS MAKING A THOROUGH
INVESTIGATION OF THE RAFT CASE, REALIZING RAFT IS NOT GOOD, AND
YET THEY MUST BE CAREFUL OF WHAT THEY PRINT ABOUT HIM. HE SAYS
SEVERAL PEOPLE THEY HAVE TALKED TO CLAIM ~~XXXX~~ FBI HAS COMPLETE
FILE ON RAFT AND ~~XXXX~~ WANTED TO VERIFY THAT THE ONLY WAY
HE COULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE INFO WAS ON AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY
GENERAL. HE INDICATED HE MAY HAVE HIS WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE
CONTACT BUREAU RE RAFT.

HOOD

ACK PLS

RECORDED

165-54233-5

FBI

EX-48

29 DEC 30 1946

get to
141046

cc Mr. Rosen

60 JAN 10 1947